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HOWARD RUBENSTEIN, 1932–2020

On Dec. 29, 2020, iconic public relations executive Howard Rubenstein, who represented the Yankees since the early days of George Steinbrenner's ownership of the team, passed away at the age of 88.

The native New Yorker, who graduated from the University of Pennsylvania and later earned a law degree from St. John's University, famously founded Rubenstein Associates at the kitchen table of his parents' home in 1954. In the decades that followed, he emerged as one of the most preeminent PR people in the world.

"The Yankees organization mourns the passing of Howard Rubenstein, who was a trusted friend and confidant to George Steinbrenner and the Steinbrenner family for more than four decades," read a statement from the Steinbrenner family and team president Randy Levine. "Howard's contributions to the Yankees took on many forms over the years, and his positive effect on the course of our franchise cannot be understated. He was a self-effacing visionary and trailblazer who could often see what others missed. An expert communicator and master of his craft, he was an adept and thoughtful listener no matter how challenging the issue or how tense the situation. Howard will be remembered by our organization not just for his incredible kindness, warmth and loyalty, but also for his deep understanding of what the Yankees mean to the Steinbrenner family, the City of New York and the team's fans around the world."

During his career, Rubenstein worked with Donald Trump, Rupert Murdoch, the Metropolitan Opera and the Archdiocese of New York, while also providing advice to a long list of international celebrities, Wall Street tycoons, religious and civic leaders, and governors and mayors. Long regarded as one of the Big Apple's most influential people, Rubenstein co-founded the Association for a Better New York during one of the city's worst fiscal periods. The nonprofit civic improvement group has had a significant impact on New York's residents and economy since its inception in 1971.

Widely respected for his work ethic, Rubenstein took pride in his early morning regimen that even late into his life

included a four-mile run before sunrise. His contributions to New York City's running community were also significant; he was a key figure in growing the New York City Marathon from a four-lap race around Central Park into one of the most prestigious running events in the world, spanning each of the city's five boroughs.

Rubenstein is survived by his wife, Amy, three children and seven grandchildren.

"What made him truly special was how he embraced the world with vigor, confidence and optimism," said Steven Rubenstein, who currently serves as president of the firm his father founded.

—Alfred Santasiere III

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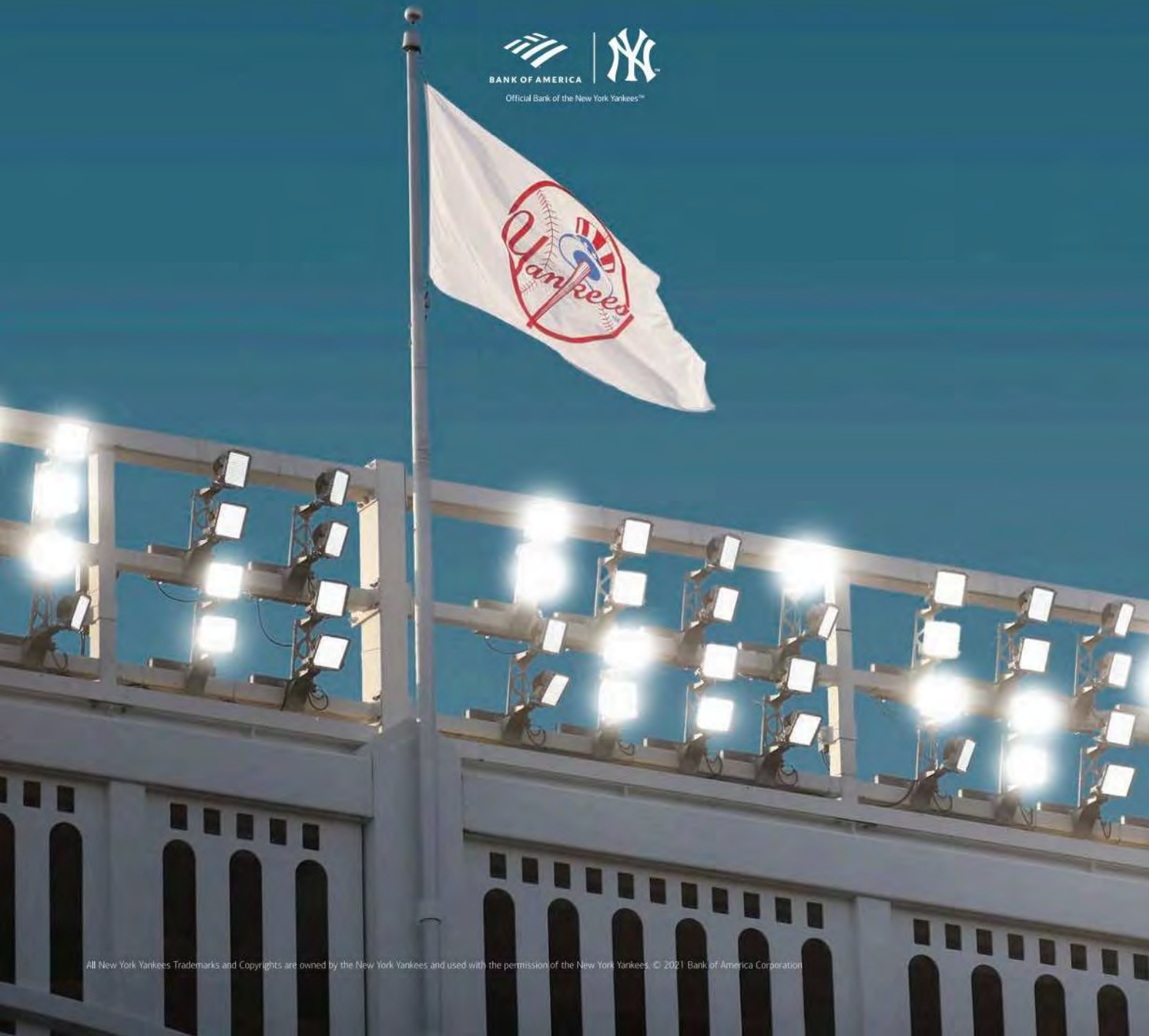

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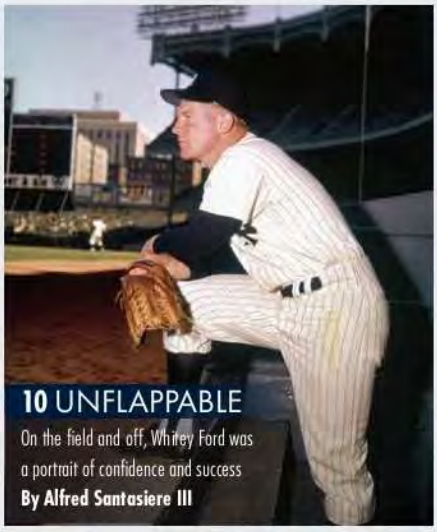

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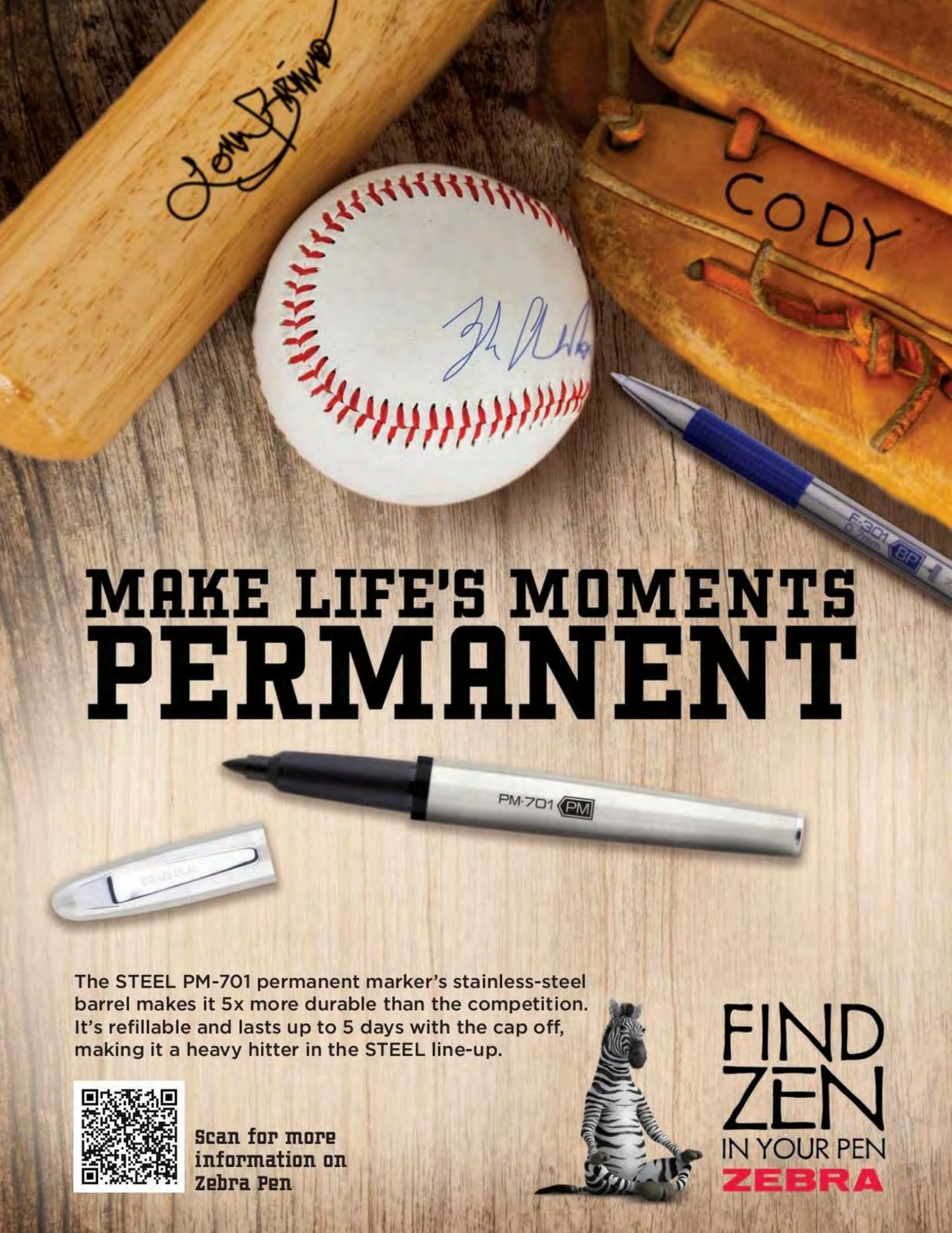
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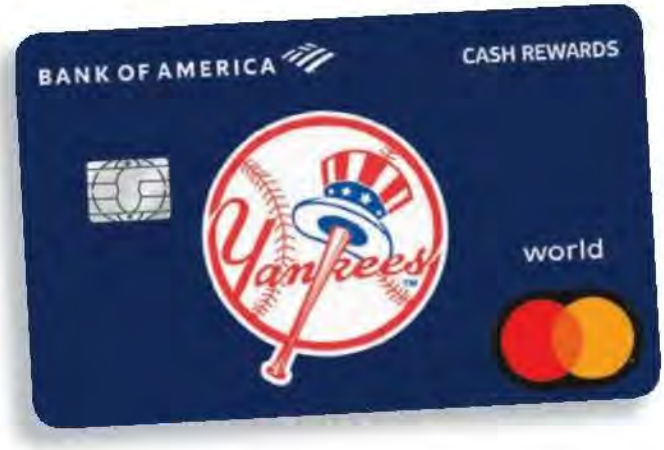

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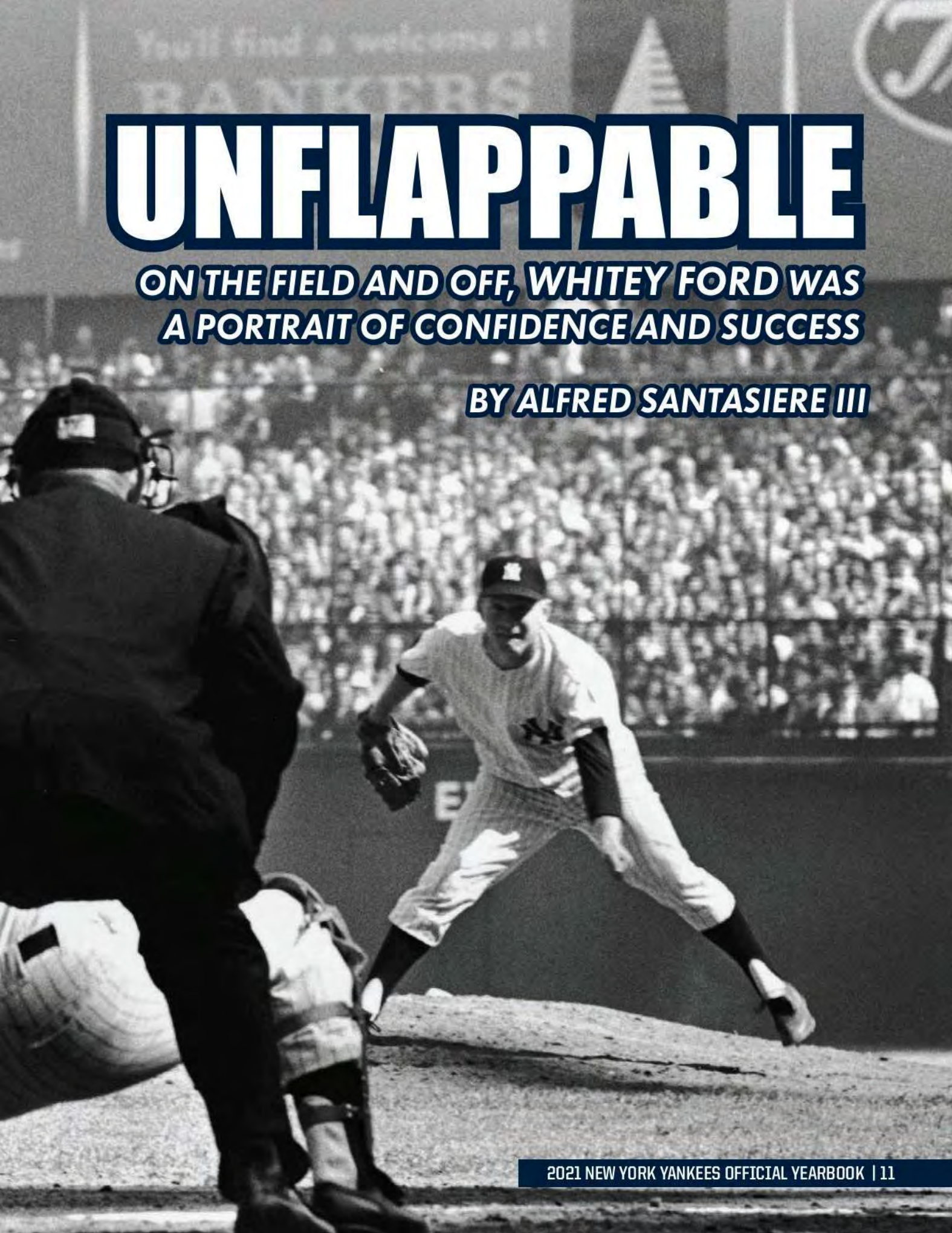

UNFLAPPABLE

ON THE FIELD AND OFF, WHITEY FORD WAS A PORTRAIT OF CONFIDENCE AND SUCCESS

BY ALFRED SANTASIERE III

WHITEY FORD

A few days after Whitey Ford passed away last October, his life was celebrated at Saint Mary's Roman Catholic Church in Manhasset, Long Island, not far from the town of Lake Success where the Hall of Fame pitcher had lived for more than six decades. Ford's former teammate and lifelong friend Bobby Richardson proudly eulogized the great lefthander, then returned to his third-row seat in the church on Northern Boulevard. As the service came to an end, Cardinal Timothy M. Dolan started to lead the casket procession from the front of the church toward the exit at the rear. But when Dolan reached the pew where Richardson was seated, he stopped.

"Bobby," said Dolan, a native of St. Louis, "was Whitey the one who gave up the grand slam against the Cardinals in the 1964 World Series?"

"No," Richardson answered. "Whitey didn't give up any home runs when it really mattered."

The cardinal laughed as he continued up the aisle that October day. And although the exchange was brief, it summed up Edward Charles "Whitey" Ford as a pitcher, and as a Yankee.

Ford rose from the sandlots of Astoria, Queens, to become perhaps the greatest pitcher in Yankees history, his name still atop the franchise leaderboard for shutouts, innings pitched and victories. But above all, it was his charisma and confidence that endeared him to teammates and fans alike.

While he was remarkably consistent during regular season play, Ford created a legacy on the mound that was built on being at his best in the biggest games. He won six championships and 11 American League pennants with the Yankees, and he still holds World Series records for wins, strikeouts and consecutive scoreless innings. On the all-time Yankees charts, he stands first in victories, innings pitched and shutouts. Ford's .690 winning percentage remains unmatched among AL pitchers with at least 150 wins.

Away from baseball, Ford was a devoted family man to his wife, Joan, and to their children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Whitey and Joan were married in 1951, and the couple had two sons and a daughter. Their youngest son, Thomas, died of a heart condition in 1999.

Of the many aspects of Ford's life that Richardson reflected upon recently, family was the subject that elicited the most passion. Ford's oldest son, Eddie, played for Richardson at the University of South Carolina, and during those three years, Richardson learned what type of father his friend was.

"Eddie was a wonderful switch-hitting shortstop for me," Richardson said. "He was the No. 1 draft pick of the Red Sox after his junior year, and he spent four seasons in their organization, quickly getting all the way up to Triple-A. But one day, he called his dad and told him that he didn't want to continue playing baseball. It wasn't for him. Whitey wanted him to be happy, and he didn't push him to play baseball. He supported his son's decision and actually helped set him up in business. Whitey was a really good father, and that story says a lot about him as a man."

After a childhood spent on the sandlots of Astoria, Queens, Ford began to make a name for himself a few hours north of the Big Apple. In 1949, his third professional season, he dominated for the Class A Binghamton Triplets. Even then, he was confident, lobbying team brass to bring him up to the big club after he posted a 16-5 record with a 1.61 ERA and 151 strikeouts in 168 innings. It was also while training with Binghamton prior to the 1947 season that Ford's manager, Lefty Gomez, started calling him "Whitey" on account of his blond hair.

While the name eventually stuck, Ford wouldn't get his chance to wear the pinstripes until 1950, and at the ripe old age of 21, he pitched like a seasoned veteran. He amassed a 9-1 record with a 2.81 ERA as a rookie that year, then began to write a postseason script that is still unequaled among all major league pitchers.

On the verge of sweeping the Phillies in the 1950 Fall Classic, Yankees manager Casey Stengel gave the ball to Ford in front of more than 68,000 fans at the old Yankee Stadium. Ford dazzled that Saturday afternoon, allowing just two unearned runs over 8⅔ innings and helping the Yankees clinch their 13th World Series championship.

"He had ice water in his veins," said former infielder Bobby Brown. "I was a few years older than Whitey, but he was calmer than me that day. He was more relaxed than everybody. He was totally in command from the first day he joined the Yankees as a rookie. You don't see that very often. Well, you really don't see that ever."

Ford spent the next two years in the Army during the Korean War. He was

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stationed at Fort Monmouth in New Jersey, and although he missed the adrenaline rush of pitching for the Yankees and competing at the major league level, he embraced his role in the military.

"After I finished basic training in Fort Monmouth, the general put me in charge of the baseball field, and he put me on the Signaleers baseball team," Ford said during a visit to South Orange, New Jersey, in 2010, where he relived a few memorable games he pitched there for the Army squad. "I managed the grounds crew and made sure that the fields always looked nice. I would show up at 8 in the morning and make sure that the grass was cut and the dugouts were clean.

"When I pitched, 3,000 people would come out to watch us," Ford recalled of facing local college nines, semipro clubs and American Legion teams. "The general liked that so much that he told the manager to have me pitch every game."

Luckily for the Yankees and for Ford, Army officials soon lightened the load on the pitcher's arm, and when Ford returned to the Yankees in 1953, he picked up right where he left off. He won 18 games, the first of 10 seasons in which he tallied at least 16 victories. That level of consistency paved the way to a 236-106 record in 16 big-league seasons.

"Whitey's record shows you what type of pitcher he was and how intelligent he was," said another legendary Yankees left-hander, Ron Guidry. "He used to say that if you put him inside a paper bag, he couldn't break out of it. He didn't throw very hard, but boy could he outsmart hitters. He learned how to pitch with the stuff he had, and he wasn't afraid of facing anyone. When you have that mentality, you throw your best pitches, and if you get beat, you move on. He was cut from a different cloth."

The Yankees won their fifth straight pennant in 1953, and in a Game 4 start against the Dodgers at Ebbets Field, Ford had a rare bad October outing. But the crafty left-hander came back two days later in the deciding Game 6 and gave the Yankees seven innings of one-run ball, helping the organization clinch its record fifth consecutive World Series championship.

Ford's unshakable confidence and his ability to rebound remained a part of his repertoire throughout his career.

"When I think about the best pitchers from our era — Whitey, Sandy Koufax and Bob Gibson — I believe they all had at least one thing in common," Richardson said. "There was just an air of confidence in those guys. They had a unique ability in knowing that they were the most important pitchers on their respective ballclubs, and they took the confidence that goes along with that out to the mound for every game."

Pitcher Al Downing, who came up to the big leagues in the early '60s and was in the Yankees' rotation with Ford during the middle part of that decade, revered the Hall of Famer's unflappable mentality.

"I was amazed by how composed Whitey was every time he went out to the mound," Downing said. "He was in total control all of the time. I don't know what opposing hitters thought, but as a pitcher out in the bullpen, I never got the impression that he was concerned with guys hitting him hard — even when they did. I always thought that Elston Howard gave him the nickname 'The Chairman of the Board' because we all took notes on what he was doing.

"Let's say Whitey gave up a few runs in one of the early innings of a game. Well, that didn't bother him. He would rebound

The Yankees were a fixture in the World Series during Ford's time in pinstripes, and the crafty left-hander nearly always rose to the occasion. He went toe-to-toe with other greats of that era such as Koufax [L], forging a mutual respect along the way. "Whitey was a good friend who was giving, warm and very personable," Koufax said. "And he really had an outstanding sense of humor."

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IN MEMORIAM

Remembering those who were lost in 2020

When Don Larsen passed away on New Year's Day 2020, it was perhaps a harbinger of the tough times ahead. Last year was unimaginably difficult for families around the world. The baseball fraternity – and, more specifically, the Yankees family – was not spared.

In addition to Whitey Ford, Hall of Famers Phil Niekro, Lou Brock, Bob Gibson, Al Kaline, Joe Morgan and Tom Seaver all passed away in 2020. The Yankees wore a patch on their left sleeves honoring general partner/co-chairperson Hank Steinbrenner, who died in April. In May, the team said goodbye to Bob Watson, a trailblazer who made history with the 1996 Yankees as the first Black general manager to win a World Series. In September, the Yankees lost two close confidants within days of each other: Mark Newman, who joined the front office in 1989 and served as the Yankees' senior vice president of baseball operations from 2000 until his retirement in 2014, and former American League president Dr. Gene Budig, a close friend of the Steinbrenner family and the chairman of the New Era Pinstripe Bowl Advisory Committee.

Niekro, who confounded hitters with a fantastic knuckleball that Yankees outfielder Bobby Murcer once compared to "trying to eat Jell-O with chopsticks," spent two of his 24 seasons in the bigs with the Yankees, winning 16 games in both 1984 and '85 at the ages of 45 and 46. He was 81 when he died on Dec. 27.

Horace Clarke – a 10-year Yankees infielder whose first two career home runs were grand slams and who broke up three no-hitters in the ninth inning in the span of one month in 1970 – was 82 when he died on Aug. 5.

Lindy McDaniel pitched in nearly 1,000 games over a 21-year career, including 265 games for the Yankees from 1968 to 1973 during which time he posted a 2.89 ERA with 58 saves. He passed away on Nov. 14 at age 84.

Remembered for the 1964 "harmonica incident" with Yankees manager Yogi Berra, as well as for his ninth-inning home run off Bob Gibson in Game 7 of that year's World Series, utility infielder Phil Linz died on Dec. 9 at age 81.

Niekro

Claudell Washington, who died on June 10 at age 65, helped keep the 1988 Yankees in the mix until the end, hitting two walk-off homers in one September weekend – the second one an 18th-inning shot that capped off a sweep of Detroit.

Tony Fernández, who preceded Derek Jeter as Yankees shortstop after helping Toronto win the 1993 World Series, died at age 57 on Feb. 16.

Jay Johnstone, a fun-loving prankster who spent just 12 months (June 1978 to June 1979) of his 20-year career in New York, was a member of the '78 world championship team. He died in September at age 74.

"The Toy Cannon," Jimmy Wynn, who spent most of his career with Houston but played the first half of his 15th and final season with the '77 Yanks, died on March 26 at age 78.

Second baseman Dámaso Gárcia, who came up with the Yankees in the late '70s and was part of the six-player trade that sent Chris Chambliss to Toronto for Rick Cerone, died on April 15 at age 63.

Matt Keough, who opposed Dave Righetti in the deciding Game 3 of the 1981 ALCS and then was traded from Oakland to New York two seasons later, died in May at age 64.

Bob Oliver began the 1975 season with the Yankees, but when he was deactivated to make room for Lou Piniella in July, it marked the end of his eight-year playing career. His son, Darren, who was 4 years old at the time, would go on to play 20 years in the bigs. Bob was 77 when he died on April 19.

Left-hander Mike McCormick, who spent the second half of the 1970 season with the Yankees after being traded from the Giants, died on June 13 at age 81.

It was a hard year, but those who left us in 2020 will never be forgotten.

–Nathan Maciborski

and put together a string of good innings. If a guy hit the ball into the 15th row, Whitey would just grab another baseball and strike out the side. If he really had a rare bad game, he would totally forget about it. He wouldn't talk about it, and I don't think he would even remember the details of it. That was a great lesson about how to deal with adversity, especially for a young guy coming up like me."

As the 1950s rolled along, Ford and the Yankees continued to dominate. The team won the American League pennant in 1955, and after losing to Brooklyn in the Fall Classic, the Bombers exacted revenge in '56, knocking off the Dodgers in seven games. Down 2-games-to-none in that Series, it was Ford who then tossed a complete-game gem, shifting the momentum back to the Yankees.

During those magical years, Ford and fellow icon Mickey Mantle were inseparable, with star second baseman Billy Martin usually not far away. The Rat Pack of baseball observed no limitations, whether on the field or off. The stories of Ford and Mantle's pranks and late-night antics are as legendary as The Mick's majestic home runs and Whitey's postseason prowess.

"A few times, we had almost 10 days in between clinching the pennant and starting the World Series," Richardson said. "(General manager) George Weiss wanted to keep Mickey, Whitey and Billy intact during that downtime so that they would be ready for the World Series. He didn't want them to be out every night until the sun came up. So, George hired a few detectives to follow them, but Whitey was far too smart. On one occasion, he figured out a way to trick the detective into following me and Tony Kubek to a YMCA, where we were playing Ping-Pong. When George got the report, he told the detective that it wasn't what he was looking for."

In 1962, Brooklyn native Joe Pepitone burst onto the scene with the Yankees. The brash and sometimes wild first baseman quickly became close with Mantle and Ford, and he also became a favorite victim of their pranks. He recently recalled the time that

Guidry, Pettitte and Ford

A golden era in Yankees history continued into the '60s thanks to the contributions from players such as Mantle [L], Richardson [C] and Ford, who put team goals ahead of any individual accomplishments. "All that mattered to Whitey was that we won the World Series," Richardson said.

he and fellow rookie Phil Linz were in the team hotel in Detroit when the Rat Pack approached.

"They spotted us and said, 'We really like you kids. We're going to head over to this great bar that we know. Why don't you guys meet us there? When you get there, just tell the bartender that Whitey and Mickey sent you.'" Pepitone said. "It cost me $30 in cab fare to get to this place, which was just about all of my meal money for that road trip. When we got out of the cab, we realized that we weren't in the best neighborhood. We walked in and saw a guy passed out at the bar. It was a really seedy place, and everyone in there was drunk. I introduced myself to the bartender and told him that we were meeting Mickey Mantle and Whitey Ford there. The bartender had no idea who I was or who they were. He said, 'Listen kid, you and your friend better get your butts out of here before you get killed.' We got out of there in a hurry, and Whitey and Mickey got a good laugh out of it the next day."

That same season, Pepitone got a first-hand taste of the tactics that Ford deployed on the mound.

"I thought I knew everything back then, but Whitey put me in my place a few times," Pepitone said. "He had one pitch that he called a 'dirt ball.' When he would reach down to get the rosin, he would scrape the ball in the dirt. Sometimes a big clump of dirt would stick to the ball. He threw the ball to me at first base to try to pick a runner off, and when I caught the ball, dirt went flying all over the place. So, I turned around and told the umpire that there was dirt on the ball. I said, 'Whitey Ford can't pitch with this ball. It's got dirt all over it.' Well, Whitey called me to the mound, and said, 'If you ever do that again, you'll find your butt back in the minors.'"

In 1960, Stengel's final season as the team's manager, the Yankees took on the Pittsburgh Pirates in the World Series. The conservative skipper chose not to start Ford in Game 1, thus limiting his ace to just two potential starts in the World Series. Ford started Game 3 and twirled a four-hit shutout. The Chairman of the Board took the hill again in Game 6 and tossed yet another shutout. But despite getting two gems from Ford, the Yankees lost the Series on Bill Mazeroski's game-winning home run in Game 7.

When Ralph Houk took over in 1961, Ford's desire to pitch more often became a reality. Now taking the mound every fourth day, Ford didn't let his manager down. With the world focused on the greatest home run chase to date, in which Yankees right fielder Roger Maris broke Babe Ruth's seemingly unreachable single-season record with 61 longballs and Mantle hit a career-high 54, Ford was at his absolute best. He led the league with 25 wins (losing just four decisions), 39 starts and 283 innings.

"We had a reunion for that team 30 years later in Atlantic City, [New Jersey]," Richardson said. "We had a gala with thousands of people, and all everyone was talking about was the home runs that Roger Maris and Mickey Mantle hit. But there were also three catchers on that team who combined to hit more than 61 home runs, and we had a pitcher who won 25 games. I remember going up to my room after that banquet and thinking that no one talked about those accomplishments, but Whitey didn't even care that he wasn't being celebrated. All that mattered to Whitey was that we won the World Series, but in reality, without him, we very well may not have been champions that season."

To Richardson's point, Ford's 3.21 regular-season ERA in 1961 was impressive, but as he had done so many times in the previous decade, he upped his game to

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even greater heights in the World Series. Houk tabbed his ace to start Game 1 against the Cincinnati Reds, and Ford threw a third consecutive shutout in World Series play. Dating back to the previous Fall Classic, he had pitched 27 straight innings without allowing a run, and, like Maris, Ford suddenly found himself on the precipice of breaking an "unbreakable" record held by Ruth. Before he established himself as the Sultan of Swat in New York, Ruth, while pitching for the Red Sox, set a World Series record with 29⅔ consecutive scoreless innings.

In Game 4 of the '61 World Series, Ford extended his streak to 32 scoreless innings — a record that would ultimately reach 33 innings in 1962. Ford was named 1961 World Series MVP after the Yankees defeated the Reds in five games, and a month later, when he was named the winner of baseball's Cy Young Award — separate awards for each league were not introduced until 1967 — he proved to be as gracious as he was triumphant that season.

"Whitey was the kind of person who appreciated the help he got," Richardson said. "Luis Arroyo was brought in to finish a good number of ballgames that Whitey started that season. Whitey knew how much that helped him, because he didn't have to pitch nine innings every time he took the mound. When Whitey found out that he won the Cy Young Award, he reached out to Luis and paid his way up to the banquet in New York. Whitey told Luis that he wouldn't have won the Cy Young Award without him."

Ford won 17 games in 1962, and he followed that with a complete-game victory in Game 1 of the World Series against the San Francisco Giants. Although Ford took a no-decision in Game 4 of that Series and a loss in Game 6, the Yankees won the title in seven games — the sixth and final championship of Ford's career.

Ford nearly matched his career high in wins with 24 in 1963. He not only led the league in that category but he also paced the AL in innings pitched (269⅓) and starts (37). Ford and the Yankees would return to the Fall Classic that year, but Koufax and the Los Angeles Dodgers proved to be insurmountable. Ford went toe-to-toe with the Dodgers' ace twice and lost both times.

Ford [Top row, second from R] received baseball's highest honor in 1974, being inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame on Aug. 12 alongside his longtime teammate Mantle [Top row, L]. Nine days earlier, on Old-Timers' Day, the Yankees retired Ford's No. 16.

Although he was unable to outpitch Koufax in '63, Ford certainly earned the admiration of his fellow pitching luminary.

"I remember well a dinner we shared with him and his wonderful wife, Joan, in New York after we faced each other twice in the 1963 World Series," Koufax said. "It is a wonderful memory. Whitey was a good friend, who was giving, warm and very personable. And he really had an outstanding sense of humor. I will always miss him."

Ford put together two more great seasons, winning 17 games in 1964 and 16 in 1965 despite undergoing surgery to repair a blocked artery in his arm prior to the '65 campaign. He made his last World Series start in a losing effort against the St. Louis Cardinals in 1964, finishing his career with a 10-8 record in the Fall Classic, with a 2.71 ERA and 94 strikeouts in 22 starts.

"From my experiences, every hitter you face in the World Series is dangerous," said fellow October pitching hero Andy Pettitte. "You make a bad pitch in October, and they hit it into the seats. All of that makes what Whitey did in the World Series that much more impressive. So many pitchers not only struggle with the pressure of those big games but also with the increased level of competition. He consistently rose to the occasion, right from the beginning, and he rarely had a start where he didn't give his team a chance to win."

Ford dealt with arm troubles during his last two big-league seasons, making just 16 combined starts, and with the Yankees in a state of transition, he retired in 1967. When it was all said and done, Ford was not only the Yankees' all-time wins leader with 236, but he also tossed a remarkable 156 complete games, was a 10-time All-Star and posted a 2.75 ERA in 498 career games. In 1974, Ford and Mantle were inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame on the same day, and the Yankees retired the Chairman of the Board's No. 16 that same year.

Ford's accomplishments will live on forever, but for his teammates, the intangibles are most memorable.

"He was such a fierce competitor," Downing said. "He wanted to be the first player on the field after we batted, so he would leave his glove on the top step of the dugout. He couldn't wait to get after it, and that set the tone for the whole team."

"Whitey was the perfect teammate," Richardson said. "He was an encourager. If you were down, Whitey knew exactly what

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to say to get you back up. He had a bigger impact on other players than most people ever realized."

During and following a stint as Yankees pitching coach and in between decades of success in the business world, Ford was a regular at Old-Timers' Day at the old Yankee Stadium and more recently at the team's current home. His presence and many conversations with inquisitive Yankees helped influence generations of players.

"Old-Timers' Day was a big deal to us, and Whitey's locker was always right next to mine because he was the ace in his day, and I was in mine," Guidry said. "He explained how he was because of who he was. Whitey took the pressure off of a lot of other pitchers. He pitched the big games all the time, and he always pitched against the other team's best pitcher. He always looked at me as being the successor to what he did. He would always tell me that I was top dog, and that I have to make them beat me. He made me understand that if I went out and did what I was capable of, I was going to win a lot more ballgames than I'd lose."

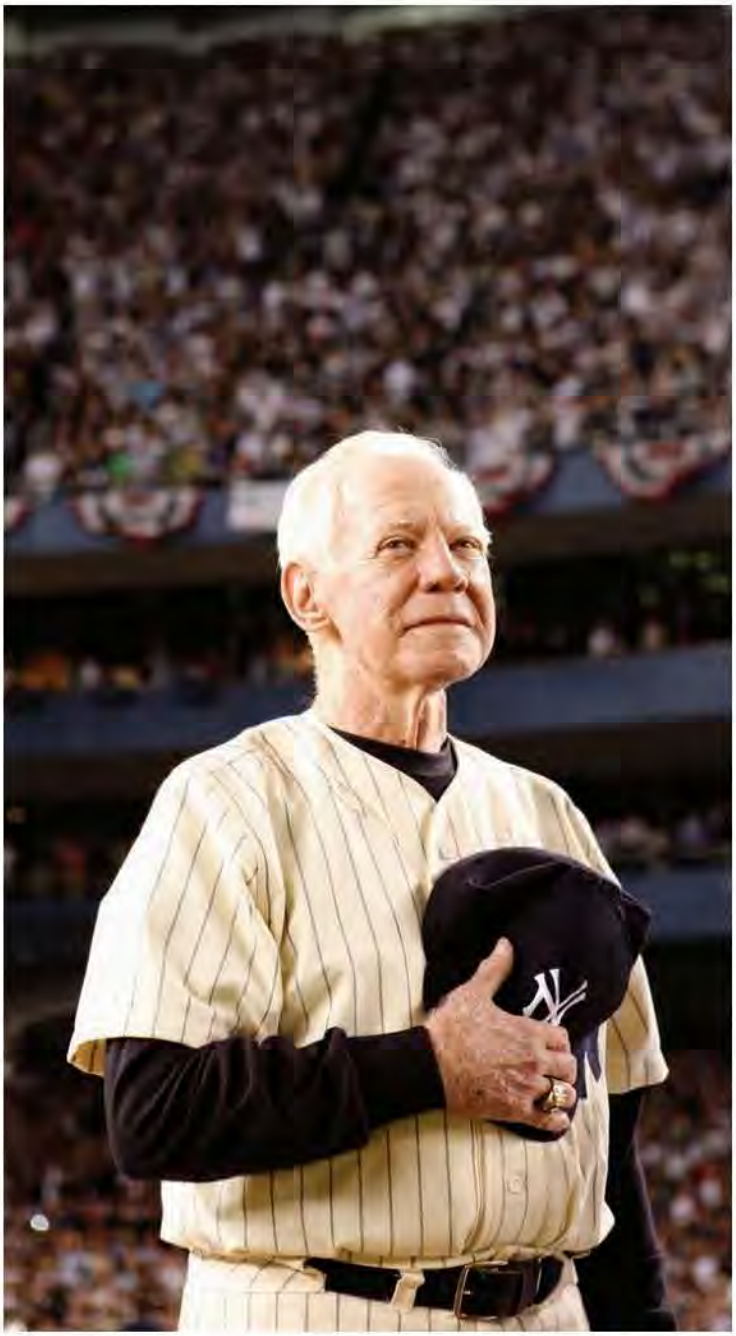
When Pettitte arrived in the Bronx nearly three decades after Ford retired, the young southpaw made a point to get to know the Yankees' greatest pitcher.

"I was definitely nervous the first time I introduced myself to Whitey," Pettitte said. "But he was so supportive right away. We became good friends, and he gave me advice that nobody else would have been able to. He talked to me about how to deal with the pressure of pitching in New York and in the postseason. He talked to me about being mentally tough. I never forgot those things."

At the end of his life, Ford suffered from dementia, but his love for the Yankees and his prominent place in the team's history never faded. His family reported that he was watching a Yankees postseason game at home in Lake Success when he passed away on Oct. 8, 2020, at age 91. Despite the health battles that he faced in recent years, Ford still found a way to impress those around him with the wit that made him so special.

"One of the last times I was with him was at Old-Timers' Day," Pepitone said. "I walked up to him in the dugout and said, 'Hey, my main man, Whitey, how are you doing?' He paused for a minute and said, 'If you are who I think you are, then get the [bleep] out of here.' We both started laughing, and that moment took me back to my rookie year. He was joking around right until the end and always making people around him feel comfortable."

Just like when he was on the mound, Ford dealt with life's challenges in a way that few others could. Through it all, he was always the Chairman of the Board.



Throughout his post-playing days, Ford added gravitas to any Yankee Stadium ceremony with his mere presence. He remained a respected and revered member of the Yankees family, connecting different generations of pinstriped heroes. "He was so supportive," Pettitte said. "He gave me advice that nobody else would have been able to." Ford's words of wisdom — like his accomplishments on the mound — will resonate forever.

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PURE IN HEART

WHEN YOU POUR YOUR ENTIRE SOUL INTO SOMETHING THE WAY AARON BOONE DOES, GOOD THINGS TEND TO HAPPEN

BY NATHAN MACIBORSKI

The following is an excerpt from an interview conducted during spring training. The entire Q&A can be found in the April edition of **Yankees Magazine**.

YANKEES MAGAZINE: *When it was announced on March 3 that you were receiving a pacemaker, there was quite an outpouring of support. What sticks with you the most about the way people reacted to the news of your heart surgery?*

AARON BOONE: I just kind of feel like it brings out the best in humanity. The number of people that have reached out to me, whether it's a call, a text, or through other people, or whatever it may be, just makes you stop and be thankful for the relationships you have, for the people you've come across in your life or your career. It makes you grateful for the relationships you've forged over the years.

YM: *You're always so good at finding silver linings during tough times. As we're sitting here talking on March 11, basically Day 365 of the pandemic, do you think there will there be any positives that emerge from this in the long run?*

AB: I think people have had to find a more efficient way of working and communicating, and those kinds of advancements can help make us all a little better and more efficient at how we do things. And more than that, it kind of just gives you a perspective and an appreciation for the lives we have. I think life — and sport, in a way, as a microcosm of that — teaches you those kinds of lessons all the time. You're going to deal with adversity and hard times, and good times. And it all helps shape you. And hopefully it helps you to appreciate some of the simpler things in life.

YM: *You've made it clear on many occasions that your goal here is to win the World Series. When you envision what it would be like, what about it do you think would mean the most to you?*

AB: It's obviously the pinnacle of our sport, a sport and a game that I've dedicated my life to. As sappy as it is, I dreamed about that since I was a little kid: being a world champion. I was 7 years old when the Phillies won the 1980 world championship. And I remember being in the clubhouse when the final out was recorded. I remember being on the float in the parade, and there's nothing, no feeling, like that. And even though I wasn't on that team, I felt like a part of the team as a young kid. And you're chasing that. In our profession, that's the ultimate, that's the pinnacle, that's the No. 1 thing we're working toward. So, I've been dreaming about that my entire life, and hopefully I get to live it out.

YM: *It looks like fans will be allowed back at Yankee Stadium for the first time since 2019. Just how excited are you to get this 2021 season underway?*

AB: Really excited. Aaron [Judge] and I were talking about how every now and then you see different highlights of playoff games in the Bronx or big games and big moments in the Bronx, and there's nothing quite like it. And hopefully we're starting to move back toward that. I can't wait to see how it unfolds. And hopefully we're playing again in October, and hopefully it's in front of a lot of Yankees fans in the Bronx.

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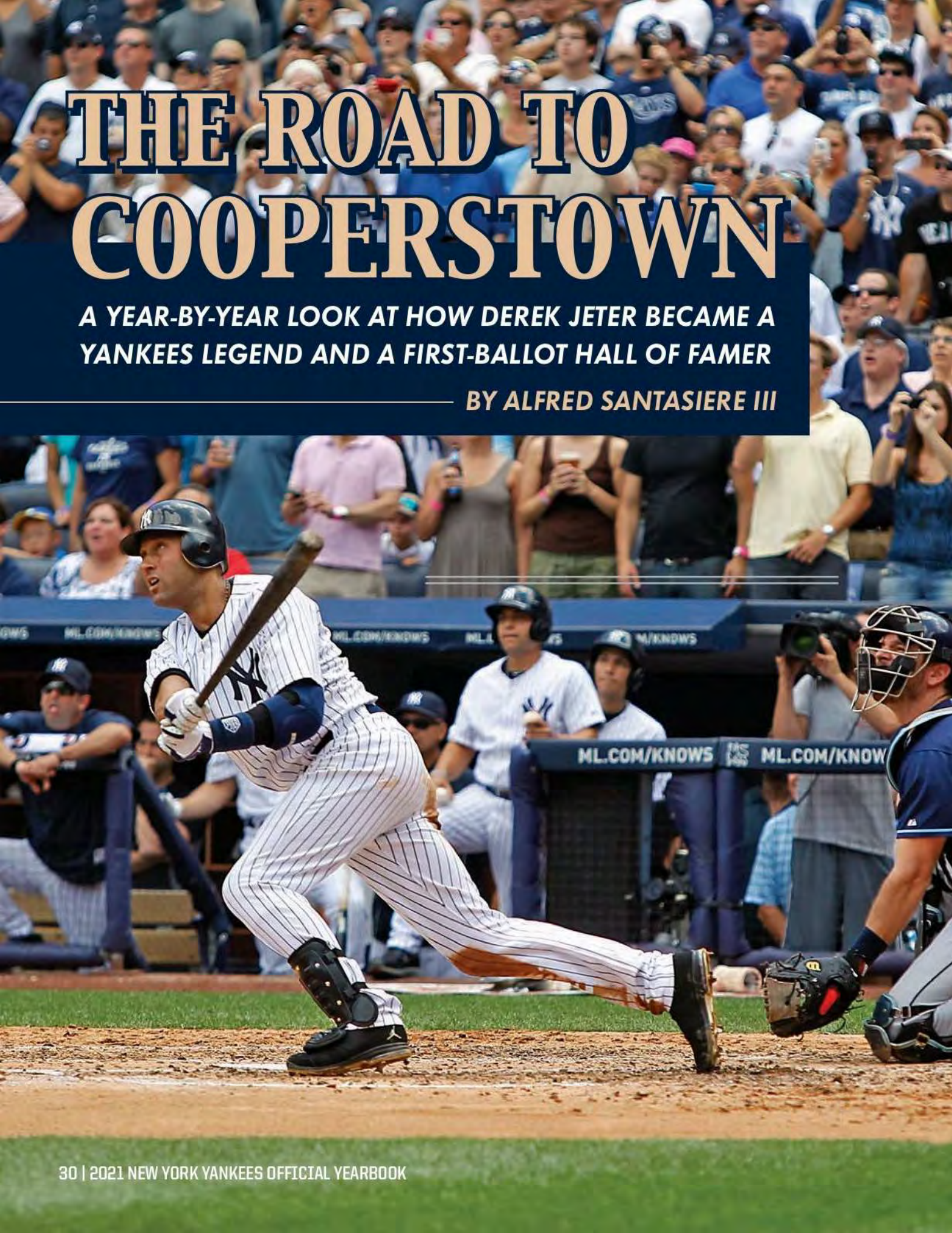
THE ROAD TO COOPERSTOWN

A YEAR-BY-YEAR LOOK AT HOW DEREK JETER BECAME A YANKEES LEGEND AND A FIRST-BALLOT HALL OF FAMER

BY ALFRED SANTASIERE III



What makes the tiny percentage of players who have been inducted into the National Baseball Hall of Fame good enough to have earned that honor? The question can be answered in a variety of ways, but numbers often have much to do with who is deemed worthy of a plaque in Cooperstown. There are certainly exceptions, players included in the sport's ultimate fraternity who fell short of 3,000 hits or 500 home runs or 300 wins, but who were so spectacular during their time in the majors that they were voted in.

Then there are the guys whose careers checked all the boxes. Their statistical bodies of work left no doubt, and they also reached iconic status by authoring heroic moments that won postseason games and helped lead their team to championships.

Derek Jeter amassed 3,465 hits, which is good for sixth in history. He finished his career with a .310 average, and he was a Gold Glove Award–winning shortstop. In what became an almost annual tradition in the Bronx during Jeter's career, he was just as good — and most times even better — in the postseason.

Jeter was dignified on the field and away from the diamond. But he reached iconic status because he was consistently great. He did something special in each of his 20 seasons with the Yankees, and that is rare, if not unprecedented.

This summer, 18 months after he received the largest share of votes for a position player in history — 99.7 percent — Jeter will finally take his rightful place in the National Baseball Hall of Fame. The following season-by-season tribute illustrates Jeter's two decades in the Big Apple and details how his accomplishments during that time led him to the quaint village in upstate New York where the game's greatest live on forever.

1995

From the time the Yankees selected Jeter in the first round of the 1992 draft out of Michigan's Kalamazoo Central High School, the team anxiously awaited his ascent to the big leagues. During the three seasons Jeter climbed the minor-league ladder, he improved drastically, especially in 1994. He began that season in Single-A Tampa and finished it in Triple-A Columbus, batting a combined .344.

After a few months in Triple-A at the start of the 1995 season, Jeter got called up to the bigs, making his debut on May 29 in Seattle. The Yankees lost that game in extra innings, and Jeter went 0-for-5. Manager Buck Showalter wrote Jeter's name into the lineup card again the following night, and that was the start of something special. Jeter collected the first two hits of his major league career and followed that performance with an RBI single in his third game of the series. It may not have seemed historic at the time, but that series holds an important place in Yankees lore.

Jeter stayed with the team for a few more weeks, then got sent back down, and returned in September. He was back in Seattle that October, albeit on the bench, as the Yankees and Mariners duked it out in one of the most thrilling postseason series imaginable.

"It was disappointing to lose the way we lost that series," Jeter said in a *Yankees Magazine* interview after the conclusion of his playing career. "But just being around that and seeing how everyone went about their business every single day — and seeing how every game was so important — was a great learning experience."

Jeter wasted little time building a postseason resume. In a season that saw him earn 1996 American League Rookie of the Year honors, he spent October helping the Yankees book their first World Series parade since 1978.

1996

If you didn't know who Jeter was before the 1996 season, that probably changed at some point over the summer. Jeter entered spring training hoping to secure a roster spot, and when veteran infielder Tony Fernández suffered a broken elbow, the Yankees' new skipper, Joe Torre, turned to No. 2.

Quite literally from day one of that season, Jeter captivated the Big Apple. On Opening Day in Cleveland, he hit his first home run, helping the Yankees earn a victory. Jeter kept hitting, and the Yankees kept winning. By the end of September, New York had captured its first division crown in 15 years, and Jeter finished the season with a .314 average.

After defeating the Texas Rangers in the American League Division Series, the Yankees found themselves trailing the Baltimore Orioles in Game 1 of the American League Championship Series. With one out in the bottom of the eighth and facing Orioles reliever Armando Benítez, Jeter launched a fastball toward the right-field wall at Yankee Stadium. With a little help from Jeffrey Maier, the young fan who scooped the baseball away from O's right fielder Tony Tarasco, Jeter tied the game. A few innings later, the Yankees won on a Bernie Williams walk-off home run.

The Yankees advanced to the World Series, lost the first two games at home to Atlanta, then won the next four. Jeter tallied 22 hits and graced the cover of *Sports Illustrated* that postseason. In the Yankees' 3-2 win in the deciding Game 6 of the Fall Classic, Jeter drove in a run and scored another.

For Jeter, the American League Rookie of the Year, the arrival narrative was complete.

"The first time you do anything, it's special," he said. "Everything comes along with winning the World Series that you've never experienced before. Our team changed throughout the years and we won more championships, but the first time you do it, everything is new."

1997

The '97 season followed an inspiring championship run that ended a World Series drought for the Yankees and preceded a historically dominant season. But Jeter's 1997 campaign was both impressive and symbolically important. He batted .291, played in 159 games, stole a team-high 23 bases — and made a statement.

"Baseball is a game of adjustments," Jeter said. "The first year you play in the league, you have to adjust. Pitchers are making adjustments to the way they approach you. Then, you have the sophomore jinx. People don't think you can come back and do it for a second year. But the more success you have, the more confident you become. You start to realize that you can play and that you can be successful for a long time."

For the second season in a row, Jeter played his finest baseball in October. The Yankees took on the Cleveland Indians in the ALDS, and the series went down to the fifth and final game. Although Cleveland knocked the Yankees out of the postseason, Jeter continued to shine under the brightest lights, batting .333 with two home runs.

1998

What the Yankees accomplished in 1998 had never been done before and has yet to be duplicated. The '98 Yankees won 114 regular-season games, then went on to dominate the postseason, losing just two games to Cleveland in the ALCS. When it was all said and done, Jeter and the Yankees celebrated a championship and a 125-50 cumulative record after sweeping the San Diego Padres in the World Series.

That team's place in history will be secure for many years to come, and Jeter's importance to the success of the '98 Yankees is indisputable. He reached then–career highs with a .324 average and 19 home runs. He led the league in runs scored with 127, and he earned the first of 14 All-Star Game selections. In the Fall Classic, Jeter batted .353.

"I'm proud to have played for championship teams," Jeter said. "That's why you play the game. The 1998 team was the best team I have ever been on. It's difficult to compare that team with others from different eras or from different sports. We're often compared to the undefeated 1972 Miami Dolphins or the Chicago Bulls teams of the '90s, but I would say that we had the best team in

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professional sports history. Of course, I'm a little biased. Either way, just to be included in that conversation is good enough."

1999

Jeter followed up his 1998 performance with the best statistical season of his career. In 1999, the shortstop led the majors with 219 hits, batting .349 in the regular season with 24 home runs and 102 RBI, all career highs. The Yankees again cruised through the month of October, and Jeter was at the core of the team's run, batting a combined .375 in three postseason series.

For the second season in a row, the Yankees swept the Fall Classic, defeating the Braves in four games.

"Derek was the leader of that team," said Torre, himself a 2014 Hall of Fame inductee after managing the Yankees from 1996 through 2007. "He led by example. He wasn't about to be complacent or to let anyone around him be any less determined."

2000

For the third season in a row, Jeter surpassed the 200-hit mark, batting .339 in 2000.

In the Midsummer Classic, Jeter doubled off Arizona's Randy Johnson in the first inning. He would finish the AL's 6-3 victory at Turner Field in Atlanta with three hits, two RBI and a run scored, becoming the first Yankees player to earn All-Star Game MVP honors.

As the Yankees labored through the second half of the season, finishing with 87 wins — their lowest total since 1992, not including the shortened 1994 and '95 seasons — the crosstown rival Mets were gaining momentum. The Yankees turned it on when the calendar turned to October, advancing to the World Series, while the Mets claimed the NL pennant.

"There was more at stake in that World Series than there was in the previous three we had played in before that," said former first baseman Tino Martinez. "With the Mets getting to the World Series, we felt that if we had lost, we might have lost our fan base a little bit and that the Mets would have really gained a stronghold toward becoming the team of New York. There was definitely a lot more pressure on us in that World Series."

As a superstar player who had three World Series rings when the 2000 season began, Jeter was already the toast of the town. But when the Yankees faced the Mets in the first all–New York Fall Classic since 1956, his crucial home run to lead off Game 4 helped solidify his — and the team's — bragging rights over the entire city.

In the first October Subway Series since 1956, Jeter did his part to make sure his team retained bragging rights in the Big Apple. He batted .409 and hit the biggest home run of that postseason. After winning the first two games, the Yankees fell to the Mets in Game 3. But Jeter refused to let the Fall Classic get away from the Yankees, hitting a leadoff home run on the first pitch of Game 4 at Shea Stadium.

"The Mets had the momentum going into Game 4, even though we were still leading the Series, 2 games to 1," Martinez said. "For Derek to hit that first-inning homer, it really took the air out of the Mets and gave us the boost we needed to win that game. That was a crucial game because the winner was really going to be in the driver's seat the rest of the way. I think that home run deflated the Mets."

The Yankees held on for a 3-2 win that night, then took the Series in Game 5. Jeter was named World Series MVP, becoming the first player in history to earn MVP honors in an All-Star Game and World Series in the same season.

2001

Legends author moments that leave fans with lifelong memories. Following the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, Jeter and the Yankees provided hope during an unforgettable postseason run.

That October didn't start off well for the Yankees. The team lost the first two games of the best-of-five ALDS against Oakland. In Game 3, the Yankees were clinging to a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the seventh when Jeter made a season-saving, almost unimaginable play.

With two outs, Oakland's Jeremy Giambi had singled off Yankees starter Mike Mussina. Terrance Long then lined a double to right field, where outfielder Shane Spencer scooped up the baseball and launched it in the direction of first base. The throw went over Martinez's head as Giambi motored toward home. But Jeter had darted all the way across the infield, fielded the ball in foul territory along the first-base line and, still on the run, flipped it backhand to Jorge Posada at home plate. The catcher tagged Giambi for the final out of the inning. The Yankees went on to win the game and the ALDS, and Jeter's late-game defensive heroics would soon be known as the "Flip Play."

A few weeks later, the Yankees took on the Diamondbacks in the World Series. Although

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Arizona ended up winning the emotional Fall Classic in seven games, Jeter and his teammates left nothing on the field.

Prior to that season, major league games had never been played in November, but a six-day hiatus in the wake of 9/11 pushed the postseason schedule beyond October. As the Yankee Stadium clock struck midnight on Oct. 31, Jeter came to the plate with two outs in the bottom of the 10th inning of Game 4.

Facing Arizona closer Byung-Hyun Kim, Jeter fouled off one pitch after another, finally launching the ninth offering over the right-field wall to win the game. Hall of Famer Reggie Jackson will always be "Mr. October," but Jeter had become "Mr. November."

One of the most remarkable things about Jeter's long career in New York was that he could play the hero in so many different ways. He became "Mr. November" in 2001 [above], when his 10th-inning, after-midnight longball won Game 4 of the World Series. But he always gave his entire body to the pursuit of excellence, bloodying his face on the Stadium seats while making an unforgettable catch in 2004 [opposite].

2002

Jeter batted .297 in 2002 and became the fourth player since 1900 to score at least 100 runs in each of his first seven big-league seasons, joining Ted Williams, Earle Combs and Johnny Pesky.

The Yankees' postseason run in 2002 lasted just four games, but in the team's ALDS loss to the Angels, Jeter batted .500 with two home runs. Still just 28 years old, Jeter also collected his 100th postseason hit that October.

2003

The Yankees didn't win the World Series in 2003, falling to the Florida Marlins in six games. They did, however, win one of the most hard-fought and thrilling series in team history, defeating the Boston Red Sox in the ALCS.

Appropriately, Game 7 of that series will be remembered for Aaron Boone's game-winning home run in the bottom of the 11th inning. But the Yankees were trailing, 5-2, when Jeter came to the plate in the bottom of the eighth with one out. To that point, Red Sox ace Pedro Martínez was mowing down Yankees hitters with relative ease, and he quickly got ahead of Jeter, 0-2.

Boston was five outs away from a World Series berth when Jeter turned the tides on Martínez, hitting a double to right field. Williams followed with a single, and Hideki Matsui and Jorge Posada connected on back-to-back doubles, the second of which tied the game, 5-5.

Earlier that season, Jeter came back from a dislocated left shoulder that he suffered in the team's regular-season opener, and he was officially named the team's captain by principal owner George Steinbrenner during an early June road trip.

2004

In 2004, Jeter's dogged determination to field his position as well as any other shortstop in the game was rewarded. Following a regular season in which he made just 13 errors in 154 games, and after nine years filled with highlight-reel plays, Jeter earned his first Gold Glove Award. He would ultimately win five.

"I always took pride in playing the shortstop position," Jeter said. "It's something that I worked hard at from the time I was in high school through the end of my career. I always wanted to get better."

On July 1, Jeter made a play that symbolized the way he approached the game throughout his career. With Boston threatening with two outs in the top of the 12th inning, Trot Nixon of the Red Sox hit a ball down the left-field line that appeared to be headed for no-man's land. Jeter sprinted after it and caught the ball, then his momentum carried him over the barrier that separated the field from the photographers' well in shallow left. He dove headfirst into the seats, emerging seconds later bloody and bruised, but with the baseball in his glove. The Yankees went on to win the game in the 13th inning.

Jeter batted .292 with 23 home runs and 44 doubles in 2004, and he became the first Yankees shortstop elected to start an All-Star Game since Bucky Dent in 1981. Although the Yankees lost a heartbreaking series to Boston that October, Jeter collected 12 hits and nine RBI during the postseason.

2005

With two of baseball's most storied franchises on the field at Yankee Stadium for the first time since the 1932 World Series, Jeter hit the only grand slam of his career. The bases-loaded blast — which was one of two homers he hit that day — came in a June 18 win over the Chicago Cubs. Jeter finished that game with five RBI. Three days later, he collected five hits and scored five runs in a victory over division-rival Tampa Bay.

The Gold Glove Award winner finished the season with a .309 average and eclipsed 200 hits for the fourth time in his career. That October, he batted .333 with two home runs in an ALDS loss to the Angels.

2006

Statistically, Jeter did it all in 2006. He batted .343 with 14 home runs, 39 doubles and 97 RBI, while scoring 118 runs and stealing a career-high 34 bases. He was just the fourth player in history to reach those totals in a season and the first to do so since 1925. He also became only the fifth player since 1949 to hit .340 or higher, drive in 90 or more runs and steal more than 30 bases in a single season.

Jeter's regular-season accomplishments earned him the prestigious Hank Aaron Award, which recognizes each league's most outstanding offensive performer, and his first of five Silver Slugger Awards, which are given to the best hitter at each position in both leagues.

During Jeter's offensive onslaught that season, the runner-up for both the AL batting title and MVP Award collected the 2,000th hit of his career, becoming the eighth Yankee to reach the mark. The Yankees' postseason run was short, but in the four-game ALDS loss to the Detroit Tigers, Jeter batted .500 with four doubles and a homer.

2007

In Torre's final season at the helm, Jeter was a steady force atop the lineup for his longtime manager. The All-Star shortstop batted .322 in the regular season, and in the team's first 72 contests, he put together hitting streaks of 17, 19 and 20 games. The Captain then closed out the regular season with a 15-game hitting streak. For the second season in a row, Jeter earned the AL's Silver Slugger Award at shortstop.

Although the Yankees didn't return to the Fall Classic in Torre's swan song, Jeter and his teammates advanced to the postseason for the 12th time in as many years under Torre.

"That is something that I'll always be proud of," Jeter said. "Mr. T. meant so much to me and to so many of my teammates. When I look back on those years, I'm happy that we won four championships together, but I'm also proud that we were right there every other season."

2008

Jeter batted an even .300 in 2008. He won the AL Silver Slugger Award at shortstop and started the All-Star Game. Under new manager Joe Girardi, the Yankees missed the postseason for the first time since 1994, but that was only a small part of the story from that unique season.

In the final season of the original Yankee Stadium, the Midsummer Classic was held in the Bronx. For Yankees fans around the globe, watching the game's greatest players converge on the Stadium diamond one last time made for a memorable experience. Jeter singled in the first inning, and he would later receive a standing ovation when he was taken out of the game.

The pomp and circumstance of the All-Star Game was significant, as was the celebration that ensued on Sept. 21, 2008, when the Yankees took the field for the last time in their 85-year-old home. Following a victory over Baltimore that night, Yankees players and coaches assembled on the infield. With fellow Core Four teammates Mariano Rivera, Andy Pettitte and Posada flanking him, Jeter addressed the crowd.

"For all of us up here, it's a huge honor to put this uniform on every day and come out here and play," Jeter began. "Every member of this

organization, past and present, has been calling this place home for 85 years. There's a lot of tradition, a lot of history and a lot of memories. Now the great thing about memories is you're able to pass [them] along from generation to generation.

"We are relying on you to take the memories from this Stadium and add them to the new memories that come at the new Yankee Stadium. ... So on behalf of the entire organization, we just want to take this moment to salute you — the greatest fans in the world."

Much of the surrounding cast — and even the Yankees' home field — had changed in the nine years since his last World Series title, but Jeter was still front and center on the 2009 team. The same year that he surpassed Gehrig's franchise hits record, Jeter batted .407 in a six-game World Series triumph over the Phillies.

2009

It didn't take long for Jeter to make some pretty special memories at the new Yankee Stadium. In its inaugural season, Jeter put together one of his greatest performances, batting .334 with 18 home runs and 30 stolen bases. At 35 years old, the Captain became the oldest shortstop in history to post a 200-hit season, eclipsing Honus Wagner, who collected 201 hits at age 34 in 1908.

On Sept. 11, Jeter surpassed Lou Gehrig as the Yankees' all-time hits leader with 2,722. He finished third in AL MVP voting and took home the second of his two Hank Aaron Awards.

More importantly, Jeter and his teammates brought a championship back to the Bronx for the first time since 2000. In the World Series, Jeter batted .407 against Philadelphia, helping pave the way to his fifth career title.

2010

At one of the game's most demanding positions, Jeter had his best defensive season. In 151 games, the 36-year-old shortstop made just six errors, securing the fifth Gold Glove Award of his career. Jeter also helped propel the team's offense with 30 doubles.

That October, the Yankees swept the Minnesota Twins in the ALDS before losing to the Texas Rangers in the next round.

2011

Jeter didn't just reach the vaunted 3,000-hit milestone in 2011, he did it in the most dramatic fashion imaginable. Going into the Yankees' July 9 game against Tampa Bay, Jeter needed two hits to become the 28th player to join the exclusive club. He singled in the first inning, setting the stage for his second at-bat against David Price in the third.

With the Yankee Stadium crowd on its feet, Jeter launched a 3-2 pitch into the left-field seats for hit No. 3,000. He joined Hall of Famer Wade Boggs as the only players to mash a home run for their 3,000th hit. (Alex Rodriguez would become the third in 2015.) To add to the excitement, Jeter went 5-for-5 in the Yankees' 5-4 win.

The shortstop finished the season with a .297 average, and the Yankees lost a tough ALDS to the Tigers that October.

2012

Not that his performances were shabby in the two seasons leading up to 2012, but Jeter found a way to turn back the clock at 38 years old. With 216 hits, Jeter led the majors in that category for the second time in his career and for the first time since 1999. He joined Pete Rose as the only players to earn that distinction at the ripe old age of 38 or older.

During the regular season, Jeter also hit five leadoff home runs, while making only 10 errors in 135 games at shortstop. That October, the Yankees took on Baltimore — managed by Jeter's first big-league skipper, Showalter — in a fiercely contested ALDS. The Captain batted .364 in the five-game series, which marked his final post-season triumph.

In the 12th inning of a Game 1 loss to Detroit in the ALCS, Jeter fractured his left ankle while trying to field a ball. The Yankees would ultimately lose that series.

2013

Following surgery to repair the ankle fracture, 2013 was not kind to Jeter, but he still found a way to co-author a moment of great significance to the Yankees' faithful fans. After only missing a combined 82 games over four DL stints in the previous 17 seasons, Jeter would be on the shelf for 145 contests in 2013. He made his debut in July and suited up just 17 times over the remainder of the season.

While Jeter struggled to stay on the field, Rivera, his teammate going back to their time together in the minors, was celebrated

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throughout baseball. The legendary closer had announced that 2013 would be his final season, and on Sept. 26 in front of a sellout crowd at Yankee Stadium, Rivera made his last big-league appearance. "The Sandman" retired the last two Tampa Bay batters of the eighth inning and the first two batters he faced in the ninth. Then, rather than making his customary trip to the mound, Girardi sent Jeter and Pettitte out to get Rivera.

As his beloved teammates made their way out, Rivera began to smile. Seconds later, the closer hugged each of them as tears flowed from his eyes. The idea to send Jeter and Pettitte out to bring in their close friend came from Girardi, but it would have been much less special had Jeter not been who he was for all of those years.

Jeter's emotional farewell to Yankee Stadium couldn't have been scripted any better. After slicing an opposite-field single to drive home the winning run in the bottom of the ninth, he took one final walk out to the position he called home for two decades, soaking in the magic of the moment and the adulation of an appreciative fan base.

2014

Prior to the start of spring training, Jeter announced that 2014 would be his last season. He wanted to go out on his terms, and that's exactly what he did. At 40 years old, the shortstop hit at a respectable .256 clip, saving his best for the biggest moments.

In his final All-Star Game, held at Target Field in Minneapolis, Jeter took center stage. Amid long ovations every time he came to the plate, Jeter doubled in the first inning and connected on a line-drive single in the third.

"I can still play," he said that evening. "It's just time to move on."

Jeter jogged out to the shortstop position to start the fourth inning. But before the first batter got to the plate, the 14-time All-Star was pulled from the game. With Frank Sinatra's "New York, New York" playing, the crowd serenaded Jeter for several minutes.

"It was a wonderful moment," he said. "I will never forget it. I'm fortunate to have been a part of a few All-Star Games, and I'm happy I had the chance to experience this one last time."

For Jeter, who played for the team he always wanted to be part of, Sept. 25 would be his night to say goodbye to the Big Apple. In the Yankees' last home game of the season, the usually stoic Jeter fought back emotions the entire night, first as his team led the Baltimore Orioles and then as he watched a 5-2 ninth-inning lead evaporate.

In what seemed more like a fictional movie than real life, Jeter came to the plate in the bottom of the ninth with a runner on second base and with the game tied, 5-5. No longer feeling sentimental but rather determined, Jeter realized that he could truly go out the way he wanted to.

He came through, lining the first pitch of the at-bat between first and second base for an opposite-field single. As pinch-runner Antoan Richardson slid home with the winning run, Jeter jumped high into the air in celebration after rounding first. A walk-off hit in his final game at Yankee Stadium — absolutely magical.

Following the game, Jeter was greeted by his family, Torre and several of his former teammates, including Martinez, Williams, Rivera, Pettitte and Posada. Before leaving the field for the last time in uniform, Jeter took one final walk out to the shortstop position, then exited through the tunnel leading to the Yankees' clubhouse with his arm around Torre.

"What he represents, we don't have enough of," Torre said that night. "I'm not just talking about his ability to play baseball, but also what he represents as a man."

The Yankees closed out their season in Fenway Park, where a rabid fan base had long rooted against Jeter. But on Sept. 28 — the same date on which Red Sox legend Ted Williams played his final game at the same ballpark in 1960 — Jeter was celebrated, first in a pregame ceremony, and then during the three innings he served as the Yankees' DH. In the final at-bat of his career, Jeter hit a weak ground ball to third base. As he had done so many times since being drafted, he hustled down the line and made it safely to first for hit No. 3,465.

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ALTERNATE *Reality*

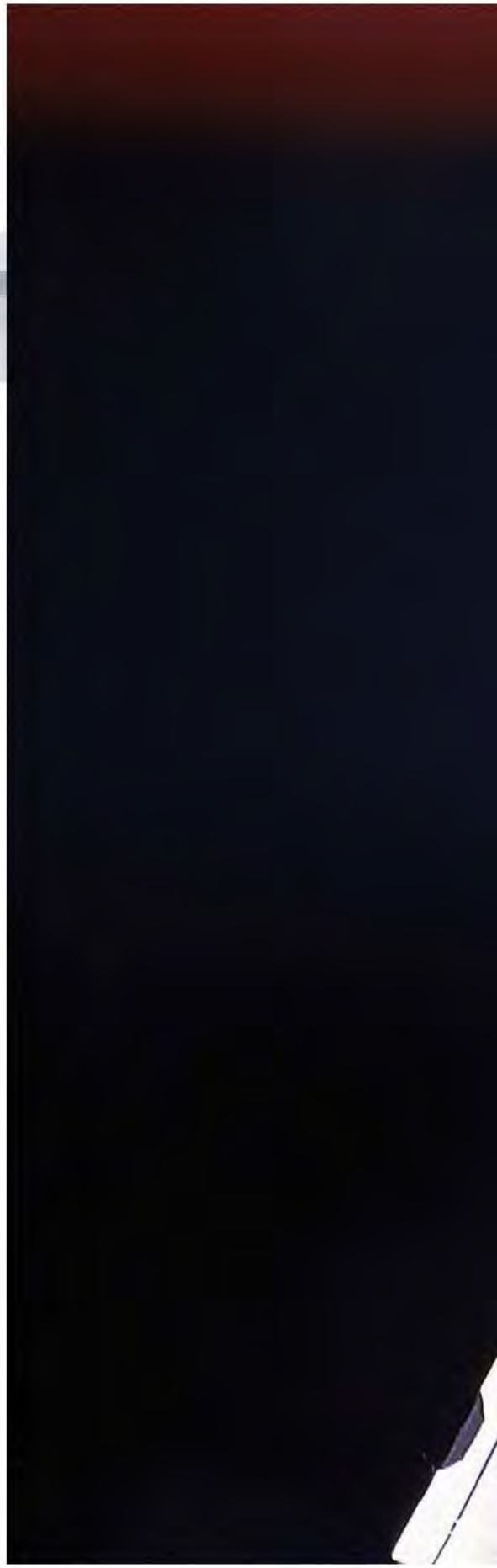
PINSTRIPES WERE A PERFECT FIT FOR DEREK JETER. SEEING HIM IN ANYTHING ELSE COULD SCRAMBLE THE SENSES

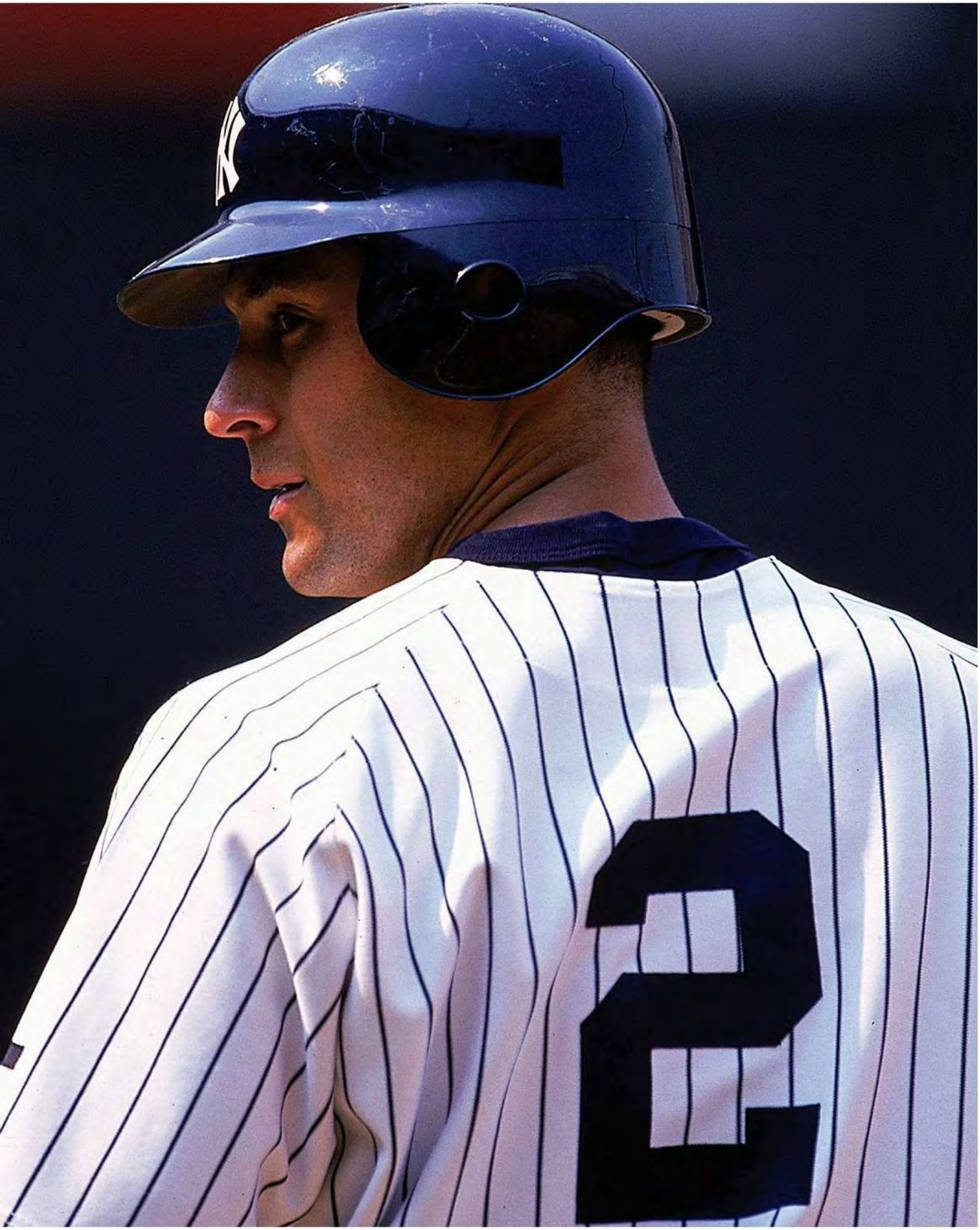
BY NATHAN MACIBORSKI

In the history of sports, there might not be a better pairing of athlete and uniform than Derek Jeter in pinstripes. Thanks to players such as Babe Ruth, Joe DiMaggio and Mickey Mantle, the Yankees uniform had long stood among the most iconic in all of sports by the time Jeter arrived on the scene in the mid-1990s, and the team knew from the start that he would be a perfect fit for its famous threads, issuing him No. 2, one of just two remaining single digits available, as soon as he reached the bigs. In fact, so certain was Yankees scout Dick Groch that he famously convinced his bosses to take the wiry shortstop from Michigan's Kalamazoo Central High School with the sixth pick in the 1992 draft by telling them that Jeter, who was born in New Jersey and grew up dreaming of playing shortstop for the Yankees, was destined for Cooperstown.

The Captain will indeed see his Hall of Fame plaque unveiled this summer, and in looking back on why the Yankees felt so comfortable issuing the coveted single digit to a 20-year-old in 1995, and why 396 out of 397 voters checked the box next to his name in the 2020 election, it is easy to recall Jeter in his Yankees uniform: leaping high to make a jump-throw from deep in the hole at short, pumping his fist high in the air after sending the Yankees to another big victory, slicing a ball to right field for one of his franchise-record 3,465 hits. No player in history spent more seasons (20), played more games (2,747) or had more at-bats (11,195) in a Yankees uniform than Captain Clutch.

Which is why, on those rare occasions when Jeter wore a different attire on the field, it was so jarring. Like an orange moon during a lunar eclipse, Jeter sporting Team USA garb in a game *against* the Yankees or rocking a 1912 throwback in Fenway Park was at once familiar and yet so strange. As Jeter joins just eight other players in history to enter the Hall of Fame after having spent their entire careers in a Yankees uniform, take a look back at some of those uncommon occurrences when a player born to wear the pinstripes momentarily crossed over into a parallel universe.





TIP OF THE CAP: THROWBACK UNIFORMS

Jeter was still a precocious rookie, just 69 games into his big-league career, when the Yankees donned something other than their traditional uniforms for the first time in franchise history.

On June 8, 1996, the Detroit Tigers honored their Negro Leagues forefathers by wearing 1934 Detroit Stars uniforms for a 1 p.m. Saturday game against the Yankees at Tiger Stadium. The Yankees followed suit, wearing replica uniforms of the New York Black Yankees — who played some of their home games at Hinchcliffe Stadium in Paterson, New Jersey, less than 10 miles from the Pequannock hospital where Jeter was born.

Newspapers across the country ran wire photos of the Bronx Bombers wearing alternate jerseys for the first time in their 93-year history. But the weekend series was special for Jeter even beyond getting to pay homage to the Negro Leagues, as it was his first time playing in his home state of Michigan in a major league uniform.

"When I was younger, about 12 or 13, I came to a game here with my parents," Jeter told Cecil Harris of *The Herald Statesman* (Yonkers, N.Y.). "When we were leaving, I told them that one day they would come here to watch me play.

"My dad was a big Tigers fan," Jeter continued. "Lou Whitaker, Alan Trammell, Chet Lemon, Larry Herndon. Those were his guys. But I hated the Tigers. I always rooted for the Yankees."

Sixteen years would pass before the Yankees wore alternate jerseys again, throwing it back even further this time. In 2012, the Red Sox invited the Yankees to join them in wearing reproductions of the uniforms worn by the two teams a century earlier, when they christened Boston's Fenway Park on April 20, 1912, nine days after the Yankees — as they were frequently called by then, although they wouldn't officially drop their Highlanders moniker until the following year — debuted their famous pinstripes. The Yankees' 1912 throwbacks replicated every detail, from the rough, early version of the interlocking NY on the left breast to the red-and-blue striped socks. One important update, however, was made: The flannel material was replaced by polyester.

Once again, while wearing a uniform honoring the past, Jeter made some personal history of his own, moving past his boyhood idol, Dave Winfield, and into 18th place on the all-time hits list.

"To have your name next to his in anything, in my opinion, is an honor," Jeter said. "When you're younger, you look up to someone and a lot of times you almost don't want to meet him. You don't want him to ruin it. But he definitely didn't ruin it. I've enjoyed all the time that we've spent together throughout the years."

SUNDAY, JUNE 9, 1996 THE HOME NEWS

BASEBA

The Associated Press

● Yankees starter Kenny Rogers, center, talks with Derek Jeter after being taken out of the game by manager Joe Torre (6) in the third inning. As part of a Negro Leagues salute yesterday, New York was garbed in the colors of the New York Black Yankees.

Newspapers across the country eagerly ran photos of Jeter and the Yankees in June of 1996 [top]; in honoring the New York Black Yankees of the Negro Leagues, the team wore something other than its standard threads for the first time in franchise history. In 2012, Jeter donned a 1912 replica uniform [above] as the Yankees and Red Sox commemorated the 100th anniversary of the first game at Boston's Fenway Park.

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THE CHOSEN ONE: ALL-STARS/TEAM USA/HALL OF FAME

Jeter was an All-Star in 14 out of his 20 seasons and the American League's starting shortstop nine times, collecting hits off some of the NL's greatest pitchers of his era: Roger Clemens, Roy Halladay and Adam Wainwright, to name a few. He wore his standard Yankees uniform during the All-Star Games themselves — pinstripes when the game was held in an AL park; road grays when an NL team hosted. But batting practice and other pregame festivities offered Jeter the chance to fraternize with his fellow baseball stars, catch up with former teammates and rock whichever jersey had been designed for that year's event.

"WHEN YOU PLAY THIS GAME, YOU TRY TO HAVE RESPECT FOR THE GAME. YOU HAVE RESPECT FOR THE PLAYERS, BOTH YOUR TEAMMATES AND YOUR OPPONENTS." —JETER

Jeter's first start in the Midsummer Classic came at Atlanta's Turner Field in 2000, when his first-inning double against Arizona's Randy Johnson kicked off a 3-for-3 performance that netted him All-Star Game MVP honors. The following year in Seattle, Jeter hit his lone All-Star Game home run, going back-to-back with Magglio Ordoñez to start the sixth and help the AL pull away for a 4-1 victory.

Always tying in some element of the host city to its design, the Junior Circuit donned some fine apparel during the years that Jeter was an All-Star. He looked resplendent in Minnesota in 2014, when the spotlight shone brightly on him for the duration of the All-Star break and players on both sides came up with memorable ways of honoring the soon-to-be-retired Captain.

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"You know, I've always been uncomfortable, so to speak, when the focus is on me," Jeter said after finishing his All-Star career with a .481 (13-for-27) average. "And I felt as though the focus should be on everyone that's in this game. But for the players to do what they did ... When you play this game, you try to have respect for the game. You have respect for the players, both your teammates and your opponents. And for them to do that, that would be much better than if there was something that was scripted."

No warmup threads fit so perfectly or looked more magnificent than the blue practice jersey that the American Leaguers wore in 2008 at Yankee Stadium. Prior to a stirring pregame ceremony that featured a remarkable collection of the game's all-time greatest players, fans arriving early glimpsed Jeter and his AL teammates taking BP in a uniform that paid homage to The House That Ruth Built in its final season of existence.

The game itself was also unforgettable. AL skipper Terry Francona removed Jeter with one out in the top of the sixth inning so that he could receive an ovation from the Bronx crowd. His replacement, Michael Young, drove in the winning run *nine* innings later as the AL prevailed, 4-3, in 15 innings.

While the Yankees annually wear special spring training jerseys, the following March, before Jeter would lead the Yankees into their new home, he took part in an exhibition game wearing gear that had fans doing double takes. The 2009 World Baseball Classic was scheduled to be held that month, and Jeter was named captain of Team USA. The honor was an easy call for manager Davey Johnson, as the universally respected Jeter had availed himself nobly in the inaugural World Baseball Classic three years earlier. (He and Ken Griffey Jr. were

Admitting that it was "a little strange" to be facing the Yankees, Jeter looked as if he was having trouble stifling a laugh as longtime teammate and close friend Jorge Posada trucked toward him at second base during an exhibition game in preparation for the 2009 World Baseball Classic. Although Team USA would place fourth in the tournament, the Yankees would finish on top of the baseball world that year.

AMERICAN
ALL STAR GAME
2005

the only players from the eighth-place United States to be named to the all-tournament team.)

In preparing for the '09 Classic, Team USA scheduled an exhibition versus the Yankees at George M. Steinbrenner Field on March 3, which meant that Jeter would be squaring off against the only organization he ever played for. New York *Daily News* writer Anthony McCarron reported that Jeter appeared in the Yankees clubhouse at least twice before the game, and that Yanks manager Joe Girardi jokingly tried to boot Jeter from the weight room as he got in a pregame workout.

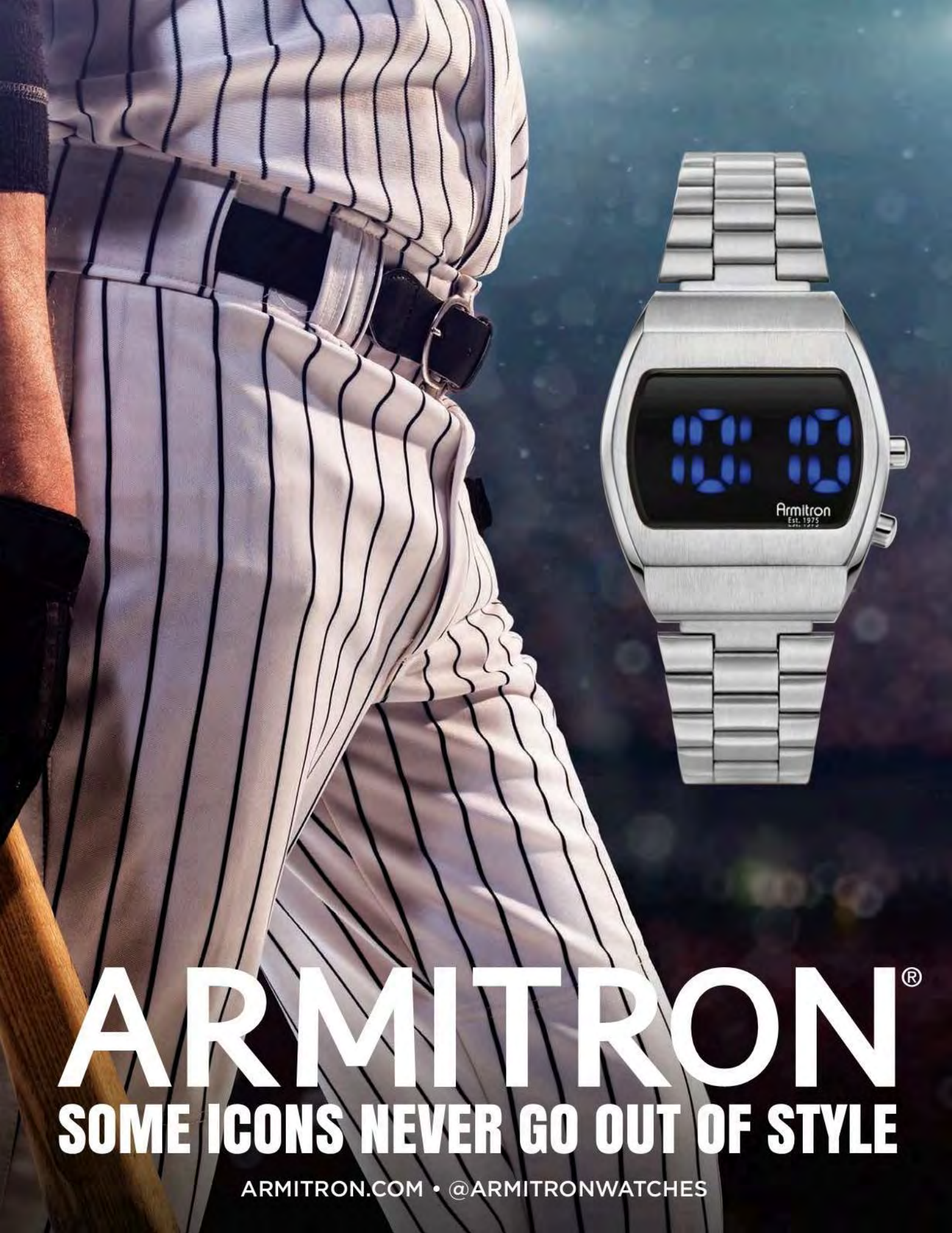
Admitting that it was "a little strange" to be facing his Yankees teammates, Jeter had to fight muscle memory not to run into the home dugout at the end of an inning. But the 8,822 fans in attendance still cheered loudly for their Captain. If they were going to be forced to reckon with Jeter wearing something other than "NY" on the front of his jersey, "USA" was a pretty good substitute.

Five years later, Jeter's walk-off hit in his final Yankee Stadium at-bat was the perfect coda to his magnificent tenure in pinstripes. "I've only played shortstop, and I wanted tonight to be the last time I did that," he said after his last game in the Bronx on Sept. 25, 2014. His four at-bats at Fenway Park as a designated hitter on Sept. 27 and 28 seemed to be the last time anyone would see him in uniform. But all those years he spent working to be the best player he could be led to one final occasion where he slipped into an unfamiliar, yet richly deserved, jersey.

On Jan. 22, 2020, the 45-year-old Jeter returned to New York for a press conference formally announcing his election to the National Baseball Hall of Fame. As he buttoned up his Hall of Fame jersey, Jeter looked out at the gaggle of reporters in the room and asked, "How's it look?" eliciting laughs and a howl of approval from one attendee.

Unfortunately, the COVID-19 pandemic scuttled plans for a typical ceremony in Cooperstown, New York, where fans wearing No. 2 jerseys likely would have set a new attendance record for induction weekend. Still, the image of Jeter in uniform, so perfect in pinstripes, remains vivid, and those rare occasions when he wore something else seem just as bizarre.

Jeter had every reason to smile last year when he slipped into his hard-earned and well-deserved Hall of Fame jersey. It was a fitting capstone to a career in which the Captain wore the Yankees uniform with pride and honor, providing countless memories for the legions of fans who cheered him on.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IDEAL MATCHUP

IN DJ LEMAHIEU, THE YANKEES HAVE FOUND A PLAYER WHOSE UNENDING QUEST FOR GREATNESS MATCHES THEIR OWN

BY ALFRED SANTASIERE III

The crowd noise at Houston's Minute Maid Park was deafening the entire night, but now it had reached another level. DJ LeMahieu — coming off an explosive first season with the Yankees in which he swatted a career-high 26 homers and drove in a career-best 102 runs — stepped into the batter's box. The Astros had their closer, Roberto Osuna, on the mound, and stood just two outs away from the 2019 World Series.

Everyone who made up the sea of orange knew that *this* was the moment. Thousands of towels waved through the air. With a runner on first, one of the most dangerous hitters in the American League was at the dish with a chance to keep things going or maybe even tie the game. If he failed, the Yankees' season would be on life support.

Osuna missed with a 95-mph cutter on his first pitch, then blew a 98-mph fastball past LeMahieu. The Yankees infielder caught up to the third pitch, another 98-mph fastball, fouling it off. Osuna threw a slider that missed the plate with his fourth pitch, bringing the count to 2-2. The right-hander, who had led the league with 38 saves, followed with two fastballs in the high 90s, a changeup and another fastball that registered 99 mph on the radar gun. LeMahieu continued to battle, fouling off each of those offerings. Osuna's ninth pitch, another fastball, missed the strike zone. The count was full.

The expression on LeMahieu's face was stoic and serene. It was almost as if he didn't blink during the marathon at-bat, despite being in the center of a cauldron of noise and dealing with the pressure of trying to save the season.

Osuna had thrown everything he had at LeMahieu; this had already been an epic battle between two of the most talented players at their respective crafts. On the 10th pitch, Osuna went back to his cutter, and finally, LeMahieu was able to drive it.

LeMahieu got just enough of the baseball, sending it to right field and into the first row of seats, barely beyond the reach of Astros right fielder George Springer. Suddenly, the ballpark was quiet. Fans were no longer waving their orange rally towels. LeMahieu pumped his fist once as he rounded first base, but retained the stone-faced "the game is not over yet" expression he had during the long at-bat. The game was tied, 4-4, and the Yankees' season, for now, was still intact.

"I was just trying to get on base, and I ended up hitting a home run," says LeMahieu, who signed a new six-year deal with the Yankees this January. "I felt like that's what we did that whole year. When we had to deal with adversity, we just fought back."

For LeMahieu, whose humility and calm demeanor are as prominent as his all-world hitting prowess, that at-bat was a microcosm of his first season in pinstripes, and really, his entire career. A major league star from day one he was not. A player who worked hard year in and year out, and over time slowly elevated his game to the top tier of big leaguers, well, that's a little more accurate.

16

Out of Brother Rice High School in Bloomfield Hills, Michigan, LeMahieu was selected by the Detroit Tigers in the 41st round of the 2007 draft. He didn't sign with the hometown team, instead enrolling at collegiate powerhouse LSU, where he helped lead the Tigers to the 2009 College World Series title. During that run, the Chicago Cubs grabbed LeMahieu in the second round of the 2009 draft, and he signed his first professional contract at 21 years old. He made it to the big leagues after two seasons in the minors, splitting his time in 2011 between Chicago and the team's top two affiliates. During the offseason before the 2012 campaign, the Cubs traded LeMahieu to Colorado, and that's where the steady maturation really began for the second baseman.

LeMahieu split his first two seasons in the Rockies organization between the big-league club and the minors, playing 109 games for Colorado in 2013. In 2014, he came up for good, batting .267 with five home runs and 42 RBI in 149 games while also taking home a Gold Glove Award at second base. For many of those games in 2013 and 2014, LeMahieu shared the middle infield with perennial All-Star shortstop Troy Tulowitzki, the team's unquestioned leader and an icon in Colorado.

"Tulo was a guy who went out of his way to help me," LeMahieu says. "I don't think I would be the player I am today without having played with him because he challenged me. He challenged me to be better when I thought that the ceiling was what I did in 2013 or 2014, but I kept getting better after that. Tulo was the one person who would challenge me to be better than I thought I could be."

LeMahieu took on that challenge, working to raise his own personal bar. In 2015, a season that saw Tulowitzki leave town in a July trade to Toronto, LeMahieu batted .301 and earned his first All-Star selection. In 2016, the second baseman took a quantum leap, leading the majors with a .348 batting average.

It was also the difficulty of climbing baseball's proverbial ladder that LeMahieu believes helped him immensely.

LeMahieu [R] joined the Yankees as a somewhat unheralded signing, but for those who know him best — including former Rockies teammate Tulowitzki [L] — the infielder's star turn has hardly been unexpected. Tulo played just five games with the 2019 Yankees before injury necessitated his retirement and began a game of musical chairs in the Yankees' infield, with LeMahieu taking advantage of the opportunity to showcase his skills at nearly every position.

"A lot of hard work paid off," he says. "But, so did a lot of failure. I picked myself up after failing on a lot of occasions. I was a good player, but not a great player. I knew there was more in me, and I was always trying to improve."

LeMahieu won Gold Glove Awards in 2017 and 2018, and he earned a second All-Star selection during the 2017 season, which he finished with a .310 batting average. That individual success was accompanied for the first time by team accomplishment. After a long drought, the Rockies returned to the postseason in 2017 and 2018.

"As a team, we had some tough years," he says. "But making the playoffs in my last two seasons was an important accomplishment for that group, and going through that experience helped me improve. I was finally playing in games that had playoff implications every day in the regular season, and then in postseason games with all the pressure in the world. It's hard not to grow as a player from that."

LeMahieu hit the free-agent market in November 2018. It appeared likely that the then-30-year-old's resume, his reputation as a good teammate, and the many productive years presumably ahead of him would land him a long-term contract. But as unpredictable as the sport itself is, so, too, was the market for top-flight free

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agents leading into the 2019 season. As he had done so many times before, Yankees general manager Brian Cashman seized the opportunity to bring in a player he believed would make a difference for his team, signing LeMahieu to a two-year contract.

LeMahieu's arrival in New York came with little fanfare. The contract didn't rival those of the other high-profile players in the sport or even on the team in terms of financial compensation. Of even greater significance, LeMahieu — a two-time All-Star, three-time Gold Glove Award winner and batting champion — wasn't even guaranteed a starting position. Instead, he was joining an infield already comprised of everyday players who had locked down their respective positions.

"I was just excited to be a Yankee," LeMahieu says. "I was surprised that they had interest in me because they had such a young, up-and-coming and talented infield already. But I had watched the Yankees from afar before that, and I admired the group they had in New York. I didn't exactly know how much I was going to play or where I was going to play, but I knew that I could help the Yankees in one way or another."

A few months prior to LeMahieu's arrival, Didi Gregorius, the team's popular shortstop for the previous four seasons, underwent Tommy John surgery on this throwing arm. His return was projected for midway through the 2019 season. That development compelled Cashman to bring in Tulowitzki — whose lifelong dream was to play for the Yankees, but whose career had been ravaged by injuries in the two seasons before that — as a stopgap.

Tulowitzki realized his dream of wearing the pinstripes, but it was short-lived. After just five games and one home run, the former All-Star would again fall victim to injury, this time effectively forcing his retirement at 34 years old.

Ironically, it was LeMahieu — a reserve on Opening Day — who would fill the void. Taking the field at first base, second base and third base while Gleyber Torres handled the shortstop duties, all LeMahieu did during that time was hit at a .323 clip and give the team solid defense at all three positions.

"People were surprised that DJ came to the Yankees and suddenly became one of

LeMahieu's versatility is a huge part of his value to the Yankees. He has won three Gold Glove awards at second base in his career, but he is able to perform at a high level at several different infield positions.

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the best players in the American League," Tulowitzki said after his retirement. "But I don't know why anyone would have expected anything different. He was a great player in Colorado, and he was only getting better when he left. For the Yankees, it was an incredible signing. What really is the surprising thing is that there wasn't more competition from other teams for DJ. The rest of baseball missed out on an all-time great player."

When Gregorius returned to the field on June 7, manager Aaron Boone knew that regardless of who was healthy among an infield cast that included Torres, Luke Voit and Gio Urshela, among other options, LeMahieu had to be in the lineup.

LeMahieu finished the 2019 season with a team-leading .327 average. Additionally, he set new career highs with 197 hits, 26 home runs, 102 RBI and 33 doubles. A below-the-radar free-agent acquisition a few months prior, LeMahieu finished fourth in AL MVP voting.

"It all came together for me with the Yankees in terms of consistency and raising the level of my game," he says. "I just feel like getting over the humps I had dealt with prior to that made me stronger, and it was just my time when I got to New York."

LeMahieu's time stretched into the postseason. His game-tying home run in Game 6 of the ALCS pushed his batting average to .346 in that series. But it ended up being his final at-bat of 2019.

For the Yankees, the 2020 season began with unbridled optimism and with the hope of finally getting back to the World Series for the first time since 2009. Having signed elite starting pitcher Gerrit Cole to a blockbuster deal, the

More so than almost any big-league star, the ever-reticent LeMahieu prefers to let his play do the talking. The path to batting titles in both leagues has been blazed by hours of work on the field and in the weight room.

team was ready to roar out of the gate. That was, of course, until the COVID-19 pandemic changed just about everything. The baseball season was put on pause before it even began, and after a brutal span of months that were filled with sadness, disappointment and fear, baseball returned in late July to play a 60-game regular season.

Before LeMahieu restarted his preparation for the 2020 season, he tested positive for COVID-19, forcing him to remain at home in Michigan for two weeks until he cleared various health protocols, including testing negative multiple times. But for as much as had changed in baseball and throughout the world in 2020, LeMahieu's dogged determination remained exactly the same.

"I was behind when I finally joined the team," he says. "But that wasn't an excuse. We were all dealing with adversity and uncertainty. I knew I had to work harder when I got back, and that was no different from how I felt in so many other seasons."

In 50 games and 195 at-bats, LeMahieu once again led the majors in batting, this time with a .364 average. He also led the AL with a .421 on-base percentage and a 1.011 OPS. LeMahieu became the first player in the modern era to win a batting title in both leagues, and he became the first Yankee to lead the majors in batting average since Mickey Mantle. Prior to Mantle pacing the big leagues with a .353 average during his Triple Crown season of '56, only Joe DiMaggio and Lou Gehrig accomplished the feat while wearing pinstripes, both in the 1930s.

"It's nice to be associated with those players, but you can't compare me to them," says LeMahieu, who also won his second straight Silver Slugger Award and finished third in the AL MVP voting. "Those guys were legends; they're immortals. I'm certainly not any of those things. I had a good year. I'm glad we got to play as many games as we did. It was a unique season. All routines that we had during our careers disappeared, just because of all that we had to do just to play games. You have to be proud of getting through those circumstances and playing well, but I'll leave it at that."

It's true that it can be difficult to get much more than a slight grin out of LeMahieu, but he is wildly popular among his teammates, who admire his raging need to win.

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When comparing the two batting titles that have etched LeMahieu's name into baseball history, his humility is again apparent, as he downplays the accomplishment.

"Both are cool," he says. "I don't really think about that stuff during the season, but then you look back at it afterward, and it's definitely cooler. Last year was more unique. I think that's the way I would separate the two. One experience was a lot more unique."

The Yankees made it back to the postseason in 2020 but were knocked out by Tampa Bay in a best-of-five American League Division Series that went the distance and came down to the final inning. Not long after the final out of the season was recorded, the baseball world was buzzing about where LeMahieu, again a free agent, and who batted .336 over his two seasons with the Yankees, would end up. This time around, there was no shortage of teams willing to shell out top dollar to secure LeMahieu for a long time.

Oh, how things had changed from only two years before. The market for the 32-year-old leadoff hitter with the highest batting average in the majors over the last two seasons was red hot.

From the beginning of the process, the Yankees were outspoken about their desire to keep LeMahieu in pinstripes for years to come. But with stiff competition from other clubs and a fiscal climate cooled by the pandemic, no one within the organization thought that retaining LeMahieu would be easy.

Keeping LeMahieu was Cashman's top offseason priority, and the All-Star second baseman wanted to remain in pinstripes. Ultimately, both got what they wanted, with LeMahieu signing his name to a six-year deal at the end of January.

"We had a long, drawn-out negotiation, but all that matters is that you find mutual

"THE MAJORITY OF THIS GROUP HAS BEEN HERE FOR THE TWO YEARS I'VE BEEN HERE, AND I DIDN'T WANT TO LEAVE THOSE GUYS. THIS IS THE PLACE I WANTED TO PLAY."

—LeMAHIEU

[FROM L]: LeMAHIEU, AARON HICKS, TORRES, URSHELA, AARON JUDGE

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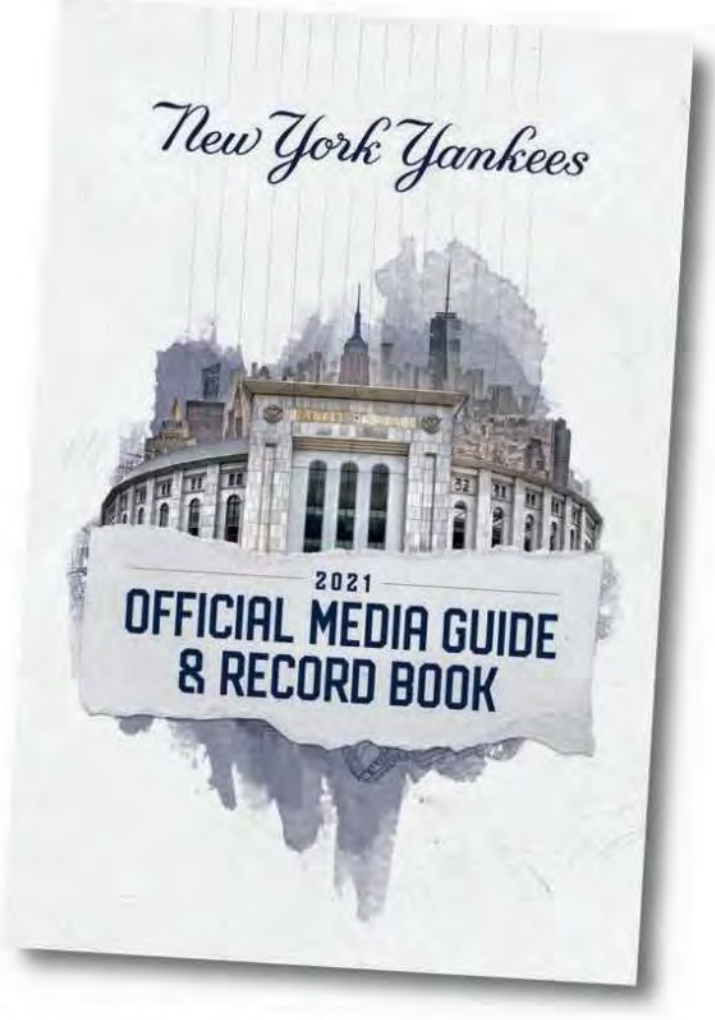

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agreement that you can both live with and be happy with," Cashman says. "We were able to do that. We got a great player, a great Yankee, and we look forward to his talents competing on a year-in, year-out basis here as we move forward. He is a driver of success, and we're lucky to have him in the fold."

LeMahieu was just as excited about staying in the Big Apple, and specifically the Bronx.

"New York is a special place to play baseball," he says. "Being a part of the Yankees organization is special. This group is special. Every season is different, but the majority of this group has been here for the two years I've been here, and I didn't want to leave those guys. This is the place I wanted to play. My family loves New York, and it's a great fit for me."

LeMahieu's home run in Game 6 of the 2019 ALCS was inspiring. It was epic. But it wasn't a game-winner. The story of that game and that series didn't end with LeMahieu. In the bottom of the ninth, José Altuve hit a game-winning home run against Yankees closer Aroldis Chapman that sent the Astros to the World Series. The defeat left LeMahieu longing for a championship, which again eluded the Yankees in 2020. That void — in what is an evolving career filled with personal accomplishments — may have been the most significant factor that kept LeMahieu in pinstripes.

"For the Yankees, winning the World Series is the goal every year," he says. "There's no rebuild. They are going to go for it every year, and that's something that aligns with an organization I wanted to be part of. Hopefully at the end of the six years, or whenever I'm done being a Yankee, I've been part of some great teams that have accomplished our goals. I hope I can look back at my time with the Yankees when it's over and be proud of it."

It was a short-lived reprieve, but when LeMahieu tied Game 6 of the 2019 ALCS in the ninth inning, he gave the Yankees life for a few more minutes. Now signed for six more years, he plans on leading the Yanks over the hump, to the top of the heap.

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BOMBS AWAY!

With their big boppers leading the charge, the Yankees take aim at a 28th title

When Brett Gardner looks around the Yankees clubhouse, he sees towering home run hitters in every direction. To one side, there's 6-foot-6, 245-pound Giancarlo Stanton, with the physique of an NFL tight end. To the other, there's 6-foot-7, 282-pound Aaron Judge, one of the most imposing specimens ever to play the outfield. At 6-foot-3, 255 pounds, Luke Voit would look right at home in a World's Strongest Man competition. Even the team's second baseman, DJ LeMahieu, scrapes the ceiling at 6-foot-4 — a far cry from the days when 5-foot-10 Joe Gordon or 5-foot-9 Bobby Richardson manned the position at an All-Star level for the Yankees.

The 5-foot-11, 195-pound Gardner is right on par with your typical American male, but in that room, he hears plenty of quips about his non-giant stature — and he dishes it right back in spades. "I tell [Judge] all the time, if I was 6-7, 275 pounds, can you imagine how far I would hit the baseball?" Gardner says. "I might hit 80 home runs a year if I was as big as he is."

All joking aside, the 2021 Yankees are loaded with power from top to bottom; anyone in the lineup is capable of going deep at any moment. As the team's longest-tenured player, Gardner has hit more home runs as a Yankee (129) than any of them. But he'd love nothing more than to see his lead over Judge (119) and Gary Sánchez (115) on the franchise's active leaderboard quickly evaporate.

This tight-knit team has its sights set on more than just homers, though. Every last player believes that this is the year the Yankees get back to the Fall Classic and bring another world championship to New York. Here's a look at the road ahead for the World Series-or-bust Bronx Bombers.

By Nathan Maciborski

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SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 1:05 YES TOR	2	3 1:05 YES TOR
4 1:05 YES TOR	5 6:35 YES BAL	6 6:35 YES BAL	7 6:35 YES BAL	8	9 3:10 YES TB	10 1:10 YES TB
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The Yankees' offense came thrashing out of the gate in 2020, smacking home runs in a franchise-record 12 consecutive games to start the season and helping the team tie a franchise record by winning its first 10 home games. If a similar season-opening surge were to happen in 2021, the Yanks could take early control of the division. Their first 15 games are all against AL East opponents, beginning with an Opening Day matinee against the Blue Jays at Yankee Stadium. The Yankees have had some memorable lid-lifters against Toronto: On Opening Day 2018, **Giancarlo Stanton** rocketed two balls into the seats at Rogers Centre, joining Roger Maris (1960) as the only players to go deep twice in their Yankees debut. After injury-marred regular seasons in 2019 and 2020, the 31-year-old Stanton once again looks like the player who won the National League MVP Award in 2017. If last postseason — when he hit six homers in seven games — was any indication, it could be a big year for the California native.

If last postseason — when he hit six homers in seven games — was any indication, it could be a big year for STANTON.

The season-opening series will be Toronto's first time back at Yankee Stadium since last September, when the Bombers set a major league record for a three-game set by crushing 19 longballs. **Kyle Higashioka** made a bit of history that week, becoming the 24th player in Yankees history — and just the third while catching — to hit three homers in a game. But all eyes this season will be focused on the Yanks' projected first-string catcher, **Gary Sánchez**. The 28-year-old backstop has shown plenty of pop since finishing runner-up in the 2016 AL Rookie of the Year voting, crushing 115 home runs over his first 421 career games entering 2021. "Gary's a guy that can go out there and win AL MVP," teammate Aaron Judge said during spring training. "He's that dynamic, and he's that important of a player to this team." Perhaps Sánchez will put on another show when the Yankees visit Baltimore April 26–29: His own three–home run performance came while DH'ing there in April of 2019.

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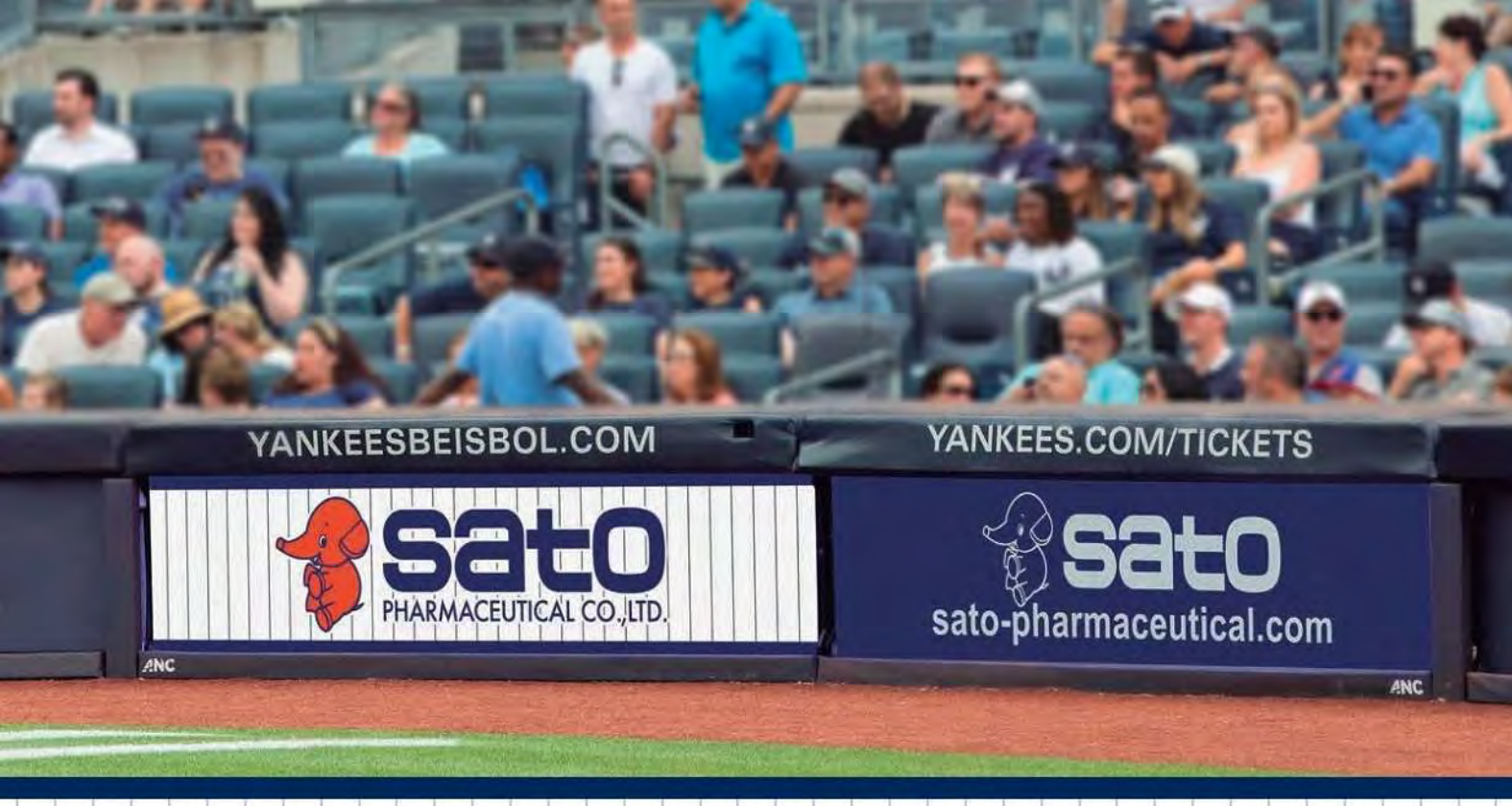

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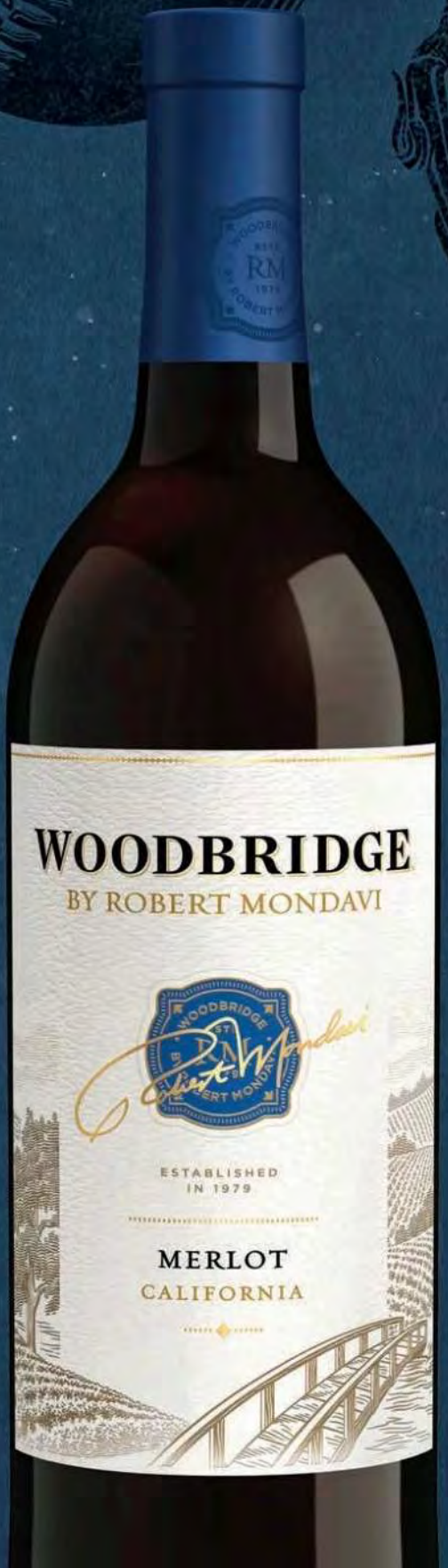
23 1:05 YES CWS	24	25 7:05 YES TOR	26 7:05 YES TOR	27 7:05 YES TOR	28 7:10 YES DET	29 4:10 PIX DET
30 1:05 PIX DET	31 1:05 YES TB					

Veteran closer **Aroldis Chapman** incorporated a new pitch — a split-finger fastball — late last season, and even unleashed it in the postseason, when he struck out eight of the 17 batters he faced and allowed just two hits. From all accounts, the 33-year-old — who began his 12th big-league season just 24 saves away from 300 — would be wise to make it a permanent fixture in his arsenal: Simply playing around with the splitter while tossing in the outfield during warmups can be vexing for his throwing partners. "It turns from a game of catch to a game of fetch, so it must be pretty good," said **Darren O'Day**.

The Yankees signed O'Day, who enters his 14th season, in February, reuniting him with longtime bullpen mate **Zack Britton**. When the Yankees return to Oriole Park at Camden Yards in mid-May, the two relievers can peer down from the visitors' bullpen into the Baltimore 'pen where they sat side-by-side from 2012 to 2018. While Britton recovered from arthroscopic surgery to remove a bone chip in his left (throwing) elbow to begin the 2021 season, the right-handed O'Day figured to play a prominent role in the late innings of games.

Shortly after acquiring O'Day, the Yankees signed another veteran free-agent reliever, left-hander **Justin Wilson**, who returns for a second tour of duty with the Yankees. After going 5-0 with a 3.10 ERA in 74 relief appearances in 2015, the Yankees traded Wilson to Detroit for **Chad Green** and **Luis Cessa**, both of whom have become trusted options out of the 'pen for manager Aaron Boone. Between the versatility and relative youth of Green, Cessa and **Jonathan Loaisiga** — all of whom were under 30 on Opening Day — and the experience of the veterans (Chapman, O'Day, Britton and Wilson have combined for more than 2,000 relief appearances), the Yankees entered 2021 with one of the most well-constructed bullpens in all of baseball.

CHAPMAN began his 12th big-league season just 24 saves away from 300.



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JUNE

● HOME ○ AWAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 7:05 YES TB	2 7:05 YES TB	3 1:05 YES TB	4 7:05 YES BOS	5 7:15 FOX BOS
6 1:05 YES BOS	7	8 8:10 YES MIN	9 8:10 YES MIN	10 8:10 YES MIN	11	12 4:05 PIX PHI
13 1:05 YES PHI	14	15 7:07 YES TOR	16 7:07 YES TOR	17 7:07 YES TOR	18 7:05 YES OAK	19 1:05 YES OAK
20 1:05 PIX OAK	21	22 7:05 YES KC	23 7:05 YES KC	24 1:05 YES KC	25 7:10 YES BOS	26 7:15 FOX BOS
27 7:05 ESPN BOS	28 7:05 YES LAA	29 7:05 YES LAA	30 7:05 YES LAA			

One of the great rivalries in sports resumes as the Yankees bookend the month of June with two weekend series against the Red Sox. The Yankees went 9-1 against Boston in 2020, including a perfect 7-0 at Yankee Stadium, the first time that had happened in the feud's long history, and the starting staff was a big reason why.

Yankees ace **Gerrit Cole** availed himself well in his first taste of the rivalry, tossing seven innings of one-run ball to improve to 4-0 in his first five starts of 2020. With the added adrenaline boost of finally getting to perform in front of Yankees fans, Cole figures to be even tougher on opponents in 2021.

He'll be joined in the rotation by two new arrivals this season, **Corey Kluber** and former Pirates teammate **Jameson Taillon**. June has traditionally been a solid month for Taillon, who is 7-4 with a 3.10 ERA in 14 career starts, and he pitched well in his lone appearance at Fenway Park, tossing seven scoreless innings in a no-decision for the Pirates in April 2017.

Kluber, a two-time Cy Young Award winner, was looking forward to taking part in the rivalry, but also was intent on proving that he is once again healthy, and he couldn't wait to take the mound with the Yankees' deep lineup of hitters as his teammates rather than foes.

"You don't really have a chance to breathe as a pitcher pitching against them," he said. "I speak from experience: They're all disciplined hitters; they're not going up there just free-swinging. They all can do damage, but they all have a plan."

Left-hander **Jordan Montgomery**, whose health woes appeared to be fully in the rearview mirror, seemed to have the No. 4 starter spot locked up heading into the season. Meanwhile, a heated battle for the fifth spot left the Yankees with several enticing options in **Deivi García, Domingo Germán** and **Michael King.**

KLUBER

With the added adrenaline boost of finally getting to perform in front of Yankees fans, COLE figures to be even tougher on opponents in 2021.

JETER

The lone holdover from the Yankees' 2009 world championship team, GARDNER began the season 17th among Yankees position players in career WAR according to Baseball-Reference.

JULY

● HOME ○ AWAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 1:05 YES LAA	2 7:05 PIX NYM	3 1:05 YES NYM
4 7:05 ESPN NYM	5	6 10:10 YES SEA	7 10:10 YES SEA	8 4:10 YES SEA	9 8:10 YES HOU	10 7:15 FOX HOU
11 2:10 PIX HOU	12	13 ALL-STAR GAME	14	15 7:05 ESPN BOS	16 7:05 YES BOS	17 7:15 FOX BOS
18 7:05 ESPN BOS	19	20 7:05 YES PHI	21 7:05 YES PHI	22 7:10 YES BOS	23 7:10 PIX BOS	24 4:10 YES BOS
25 7:05 ESPN BOS	26	27 7:10 PIX TB	28 7:10 YES TB	29 1:10 YES TB	30 7:10 PIX MIA	31 6:10 YES MIA

The last time the MLB All-Star Game was held in Atlanta, things worked out pretty well for the Yankees. Derek Jeter was named MVP of the 2000 Midsummer Classic, and three months later he became the first player in history to take home World Series MVP honors in the same season.

Jeter, the Yankees' first-round pick in 1992, will officially be inducted into the Hall of Fame on July 25. And for the first time since its 1965 inception, the MLB Draft will be held outside of June, taking place July 11–13 in Atlanta to coincide with the 91st MLB All-Star Game, which will be played at Truist Park on July 13. Will the Yankees unearth a future Hall of Famer when they select 20th?

They'd certainly love to find another gem such as outfielder **Brett Gardner**, a third-round pick out of the College of Charleston in 2005 who is now in his 14th season in pinstripes. The lone holdover from the Yankees' 2009 world championship team, Gardner began the season 17th among Yankees position players in career WAR according to Baseball-Reference, ahead of such stalwarts as Jorge Posada, Don Mattingly and Phil Rizzuto — all of whom had their numbers retired by the team.

In fact, there have been several Yankees draft picks outside of the first round in recent years who could contribute in 2021. Speedy utilityman **Tyler Wade** (2013, fourth round) as well as relievers **Nick Nelson** (2016, fourth round) and **Brooks Kriske** (2016, sixth round) all began the season on the Yankees' 40-man roster.

First baseman **Mike Ford**, who signed with the Yankees as an amateur free agent after going undrafted out of Princeton in 2013, will vie for at-bats, as will infielder **Thairo Estrada** and infielder/outfielder **Miguel Andújar**, who have all, at times, showed they can produce at the plate.

AUGUST

● HOME ○ AWAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 1:10 YES MIA	2 7:05 YES BAL	3 7:05 YES BAL	4 7:05 YES BAL	5 7:05 YES SEA	6 7:05 YES SEA	7 TBD YES SEA
8 TBD YES SEA	9 8:10 YES HC	10 8:10 YES HC	11 2:10 YES HC	12 7:15 FOX CWS**	13	14 7:10 YES CWS
15 2:05 PIX CWS	16	17 7:05 PIX BOS	18 7:05 YES BOS	19 7:05 YES MIN	20 7:05 YES MIN	21 1:05 FSI MIN
22 TBD PIX MIN*	23 7:20 YES ATL	24 7:20 YES ATL	25	26 9:40 YES OAK	27 9:40 YES OAK	28 4:07 PIX OAK
29 4:07 YES OAK	30 9:38 YES LAA	31 9:38 YES LAA	**NYY at CWS in Dyersville, Iowa			

TORRES

If you build it, they will come — and the Yankees are on their way. Originally scheduled for last August but postponed due to the pandemic, the inaugural MLB at *Field of Dreams* game — in which the White Sox will play host to the Yankees at the Dyersville, Iowa, site where the 1989 movie was filmed — will take place on Aug. 12. Although the Hawkeye State has a long and rich baseball history, it will mark the first major league game ever held there.

There are no Iowans on the current Yankees' roster, but locals may find themselves cheering for **DJ LeMahieu**, the perennial MVP candidate whose dad, Tom, played college ball in Sioux Center. LeMahieu — who played for the Iowa Cubs while coming up through the minors — and White Sox shortstop Tim Anderson have finished 1-2 in the AL batting race each of the last two years, with LeMahieu claiming the crown in 2020. It will be fascinating to see where they are on the leaderboard come August when they clash near the cornfields.

If it's defense the fans desire, the three-time Gold Glove–winning LeMahieu certainly sparkles at second, but Yankees third baseman **Gio Urshela** is often the star of the show. The 29-year-old Colombia native has come on strong with the bat, raising his career average by nearly 50 points and leading the team in doubles over his first two seasons in New York, but his wizardry at the hot corner routinely leaves mouths agape.

Urshela's partner on the left side of the infield is another showstopper. **Gleyber Torres**, still just 24 years old, entered his fourth season in the bigs a bona fide star, a two-time All-Star who hit a team-high 38 home runs in 2019. With **Luke Voit**, the major league home run leader in 2020, rounding out the quartet, the 2021 Yankees have their own Infield of Dreams.

LeMAHIEU, the perennial MVP candidate, claimed the AL batting crown in 2020.

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SEPT./OCT.

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 7:07 YES LAA	2	3 7:05 YES BAL	4 TBD YES BAL
5 TBD YES BAL	6 1:05 YES TOR	7 7:05 YES TOR	8 7:05 YES TOR	9 7:05 YES TOR	10 7:10 YES NYM	11 7:40 FOX NYM
12 8:05 ESPN NYM	13	14 6:35 YES BAL	15 6:35 YES BAL	16 5:05 YES BAL	17 7:05 PIX CLE	18 1:05 YES CLE
19 1:05 YES CLE	20 7:05 YES TEX	21 7:05 YES TEX	22 7:05 YES TEX	23	24 7:10 YES BOS	25 4:05 PIX BOS
26 7:05 ESPN BOS	27	28 7:07 YES TOR	29 7:07 PIX TOR	30 7:07 YES TOR	1 7:05 YES TB	2 1:05 YES TB
3 3:05 YES TB						

○ HOME ● AWAY

The Yankees close out the regular season with a three-game set at home against Tampa Bay, which won the AL East by seven games over the Yanks in 2020, then outlasted the Bombers in an ALDS held entirely at San Diego's Petco Park due to the pandemic — the first time these two division foes clashed in the postseason. Could it have marked the start of a new October rivalry? Or, at the very least, will the season-closing series between them at Yankee Stadium Oct. 1–3 have playoff implications?

The Yankees' powerful offense will have much to say about that. The presumed starting outfield unit of switch-hitter **Aaron Hicks**, left fielder **Clint Frazier** and right fielder **Aaron Judge** combines speed and strength. A healthy Judge and Stanton could be on par with some of the most fearsome duos in Yankees history. And with a lineup as deep and talented as the Yankees' is, there's always a dangerous bat waiting on deck.

If the Yankees can clinch a postseason berth, manager **Aaron Boone** would join Mike Matheny and Dave Roberts as the only skippers in baseball history to reach the postseason in each of their first four seasons. But the Yanks aren't looking to just make it to October; they want to be the last ones standing. And with bubble sites and fan-less stadiums hopefully a thing of the past, Boone and his charges would love nothing more than to bring a 28th World Series championship to the Bronx with the Yankees' legion of fans cheering them on every step of the way.

A healthy JUDGE and Stanton could be on par with some of the most fearsome duos in Yankees history.

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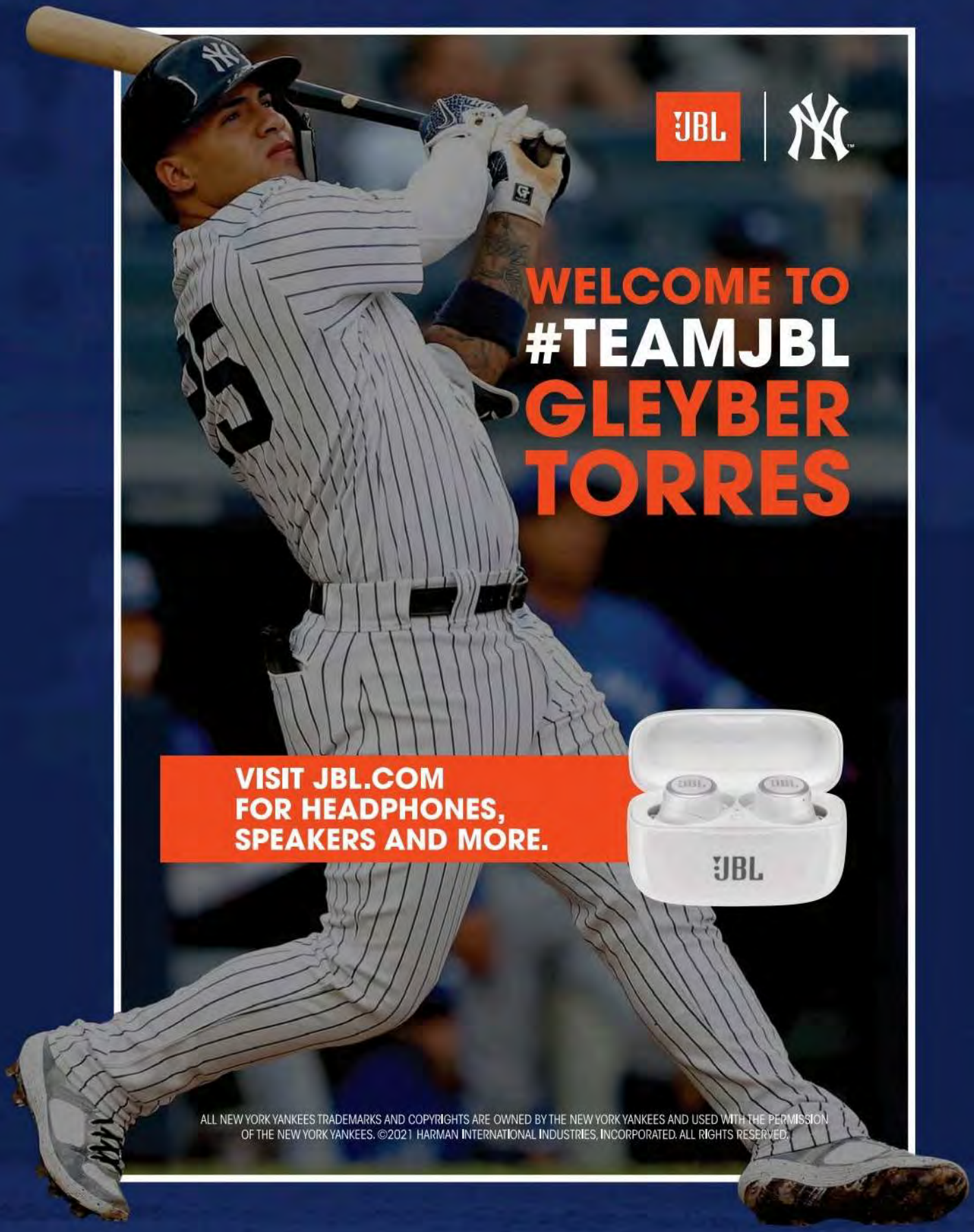
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MANAGER & COACHES

17 AARON BOONE

MANAGER

DOB: 3/9/73 • HOMETOWN: VILLA PARK, CA • SCHOOL: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (LOS ANGELES, CA)

Between the 2003 regular season and postseason, Aaron Boone appeared in 71 games for the Yankees. His brief pinstriped playing career is best remembered for one spectacular at-bat, but his managerial career, on the other hand, keeps adding new memories. Having guided the Yankees to the postseason in each of his first three years at the helm, Boone enters 2021 as one of just six managers in the franchise's 118-year history to have won more than 60 percent of his games. He is still chasing his first career World Series championship as a player or a manager, but he does so with a lifetime's worth of baseball knowledge and a knack for October heroics.

Having provided so much value to the Yankees organization for so many years, Carlos Mendoza has earned every promotion through the coaching ranks. The second-year bench coach transitioned from Yankees farmhand to Short-Season A-ball coach in 2009 and has held myriad roles since. Lauded for his compassion and communication skills, Mendoza earns the respect of everyone around him. The 41-year-old Venezuela native joined the big-league staff when Aaron Boone became manager in 2018, and they will look to keep the Yankees' postseason streak going in 2021.

64 CARLOS MENDOZA

BENCH COACH

DOB: 11/27/79 • HOMETOWN: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA • SCHOOL: U.E. COLEGIO ANDRÉS BELLO (BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA)

If the 60-game regular season of 2020 is any indication of what the Yankees' offense might do this year, pinstriped hitters will again be among the game's best at mashing baseballs and getting on base. Under the tutelage of Marcus Thames – who now enters his fourth season as hitting coach – the Yankees paced the American League with 315 runs and a .342 team on-base percentage while finishing second with 94 home runs in 2020. The Bronx Bombers also produced the majors' home run leader in Luke Voit, as well as MLB's batting champ, DJ LeMahieu.

72 MARCUS THAMES

HITTING COACH

DOB: 3/6/77 • HOMETOWN: LOUISVILLE, MS • SCHOOL: TEXAS STATE (SAN MARCOS, TX)

Whenever a young Yankees batter comes through in the clutch, chances are you're watching P.J. Pilittere's handiwork in action. This will be the California native's 10th season coaching in the Yankees organization and fourth with the major league club. As he climbed his way up the ranks, Pilittere guided hitters such as Aaron Judge, Gleyber Torres, Gary Sánchez and Clint Frazier. Before he joined the Yankees' coaching staff, the former catcher played eight seasons in the organization's minor league system following a standout college career at Cal State Fullerton.

74 P.J. PILITTERE

ASSISTANT HITTING COACH

DOB: 11/23/81 • HOMETOWN: WALNUT, CA • SCHOOL: CAL STATE FULLERTON (FULLERTON, CA)

Whatever comes Matt Blake's way throughout the rest of his career, he can look back and say he successfully navigated a downright bizarre first year in the bigs. Ready to get down to work with a new stable of pitchers after coming over from Cleveland, Blake dealt with a season completely upended by the COVID-19 pandemic. He returns for his second year after effectively guiding a Yankees pitching staff that ranked second in the American League with 9.5 K/9 in 2020, and a starting rotation that ranked second with a 4.20 K/BB ratio.

67 MATT BLAKE

PITCHING COACH

DOB: 5/14/85 • HOMETOWN: CONCORD, NH • SCHOOL: HOLY CROSS (WORCESTER, MA)

Reggie Willits was not only named after Reggie Jackson, but he also shares a few other things in common with the Hall of Famer. Both Reggies played outfield for the Angels and have occupied diverse roles in the Yankees' hierarchy. This year marks Willits' fourth as the Yankees' first base coach and outfield instructor, and it is his seventh season in the organization. Prior to joining the big-league club in 2018, the Oklahoma native served as an outfield and baserunning coordinator in the Yankees' player development system, during which time the organization's minor league players were successful on 70.3 percent of their stolen-base attempts.

75 REGGIE WILLITS

FIRST BASE COACH

DOB: 5/30/81 • HOMETOWN: FORT COBB, OK • SCHOOL: UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA (NORMAN, OK)

Part of the Yankees' coaching staff's three-headed Cal State Fullerton contingent, Nevin was the first player selected in the 1992 MLB Draft, five picks ahead of a certain Yankees Hall of Fame shortstop. An All-Star in 2001, when he hit 41 homers, Nevin can be seen these days saluting Yankees home run hitters from his perch in the third base coaching box. Entering his fourth season in the Bronx, Nevin figures to have plenty of longballs to celebrate in 2021, with sluggers such as Aaron Judge and Giancarlo Stanton sure to mash plenty of moonshots.

88 PHIL NEVIN

THIRD BASE COACH

DOB: 1/19/71 • HOMETOWN: PLACENTIA, CA • SCHOOL: CAL STATE FULLERTON (FULLERTON, CA)

Yankees relievers know the feeling all too well: A ballgame intensifies, the bullpen phone rings, their adrenaline spikes, then Mike Harkey calls out the name ... of a pitcher other than whom manager Aaron Boone requested. Pranks and levity have been a staple under Harkey's watch just as much as high strikeout rates and save percentages. Now in his 12th season as Yankees bullpen coach, Harkey will continue to keep the team's relievers loose and ready whenever called upon for real.

70 MIKE HARKEY

BULLPEN COACH

DOB: 10/25/66 • HOMETOWN: DIAMOND BAR, CA • SCHOOL: CAL STATE FULLERTON (FULLERTON, CA)

Still shy of his 40th birthday and entering his second season on the Yankees' big-league coaching staff, Tanner Swanson has already done quite a bit in the game. The catching guru played four years of college ball – two at community colleges in his home state of Washington and two at Central Washington University. He also coached at the high school level, served as an assistant coach at the University of Washington and was head coach at Green River Community College. Swanson broke into professional baseball with the Twins, spending the 2018 and 2019 seasons as the organization's minor league catching coordinator.

76 TANNER SWANSON

MAJOR LEAGUE QUALITY CONTROL COACH AND CATCHING COORDINATOR

DOB: 8/31/82 • HOMETOWN: ROSLYN, WA • SCHOOL: CENTRAL WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY (ELLENSBURG, WA)

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PITCHERS

84 ALBERT ABREU

P

Yankees fans have reason to be excited about Albert Abreu's future. The right-hander has been considered one of the organization's top 10 prospects ever since he was acquired from the Astros in the November 2016 deal for Brian McCann, and Abreu broke into the majors in 2020 at 24 years old. The season before, he showed his durability, pitching in 23 games with 20 starts for Double-A Trenton. Armed with a four-seam fastball that registers in the upper 90s and a trio of off-speed pitches in the 80s, Abreu has shown a propensity to keep hitters off balance.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 9/26/95 • BIRTHPLACE: GUAYUBÍN, D.R. • HOMETOWN: GUAYUBÍN, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	0	1	20.25	2	0	0	0	0	1.1	4	4	3	1	2	2
CAREER	0	1	20.25	2	0	0	0	0	1.1	4	4	3	1	2	2

53 ZACK BRITTON

P

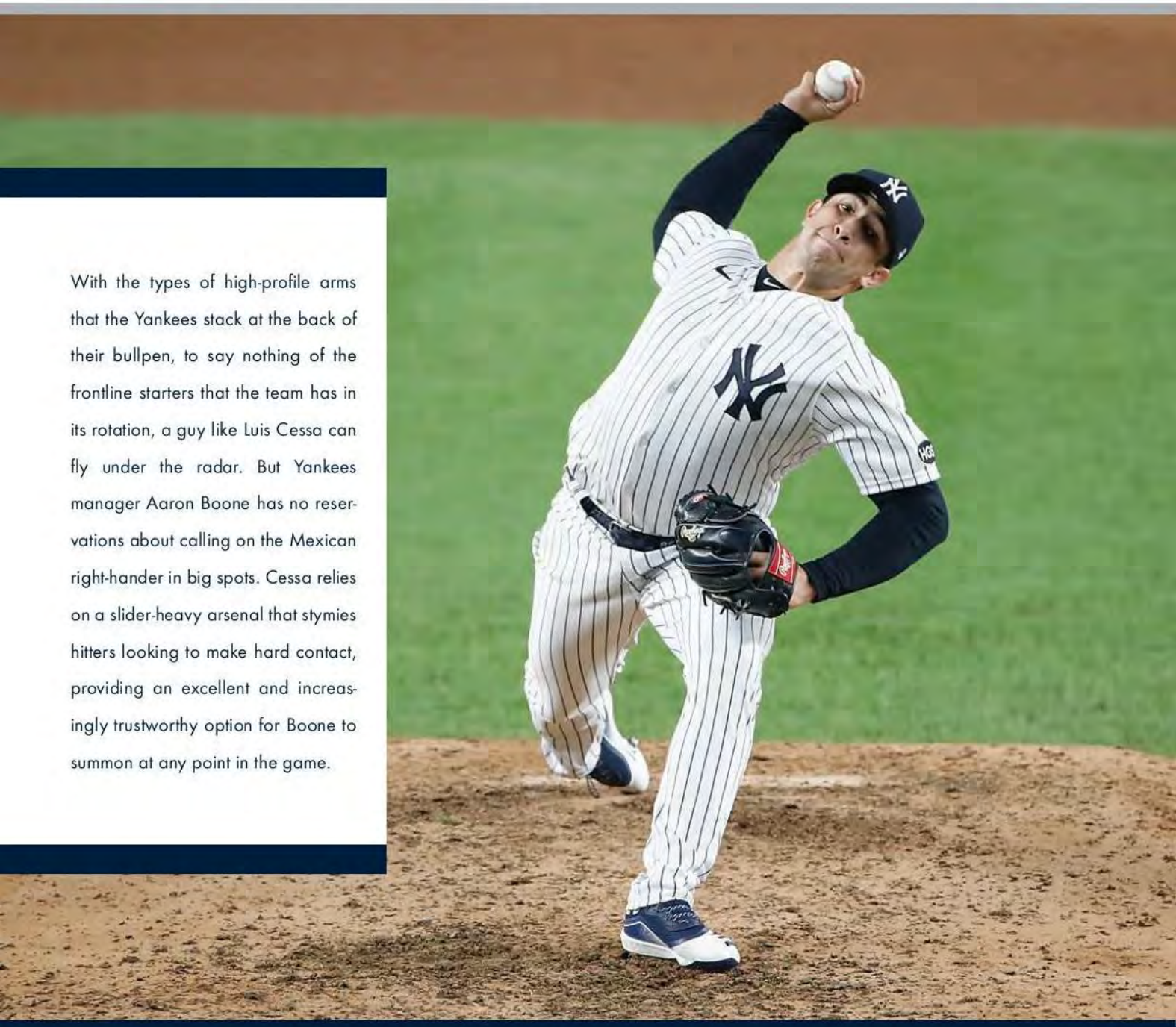
For Zack Britton, everything is sink or slide. The left-hander hasn't thrown anything straight in years, relying on his wacky slider to draw swings and misses, and his bowling ball sinker – which he throws more than 75 percent of the time – to induce groundouts. Britton has long possessed the pedigree to be a ninth-inning weapon, which he proved by converting 60 consecutive save chances with the Orioles. When needed, he can handle that role for the Yankees, filling in as necessary for closer Aroldis Chapman while also lengthening the team's often-untouchable bullpen.

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 12/22/87 • HOMETOWN: SANTA CLARITA, CA • SCHOOL: WEATHERFORD HS (WEATHERFORD, TX)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	1	2	1.89	20	0	0	0	8	19	12	6	4	0	7	16
CAREER	35	25	3.04	417	46	0	0	153	622	528	240	210	37	244	515

85 LUIS CESSA

P



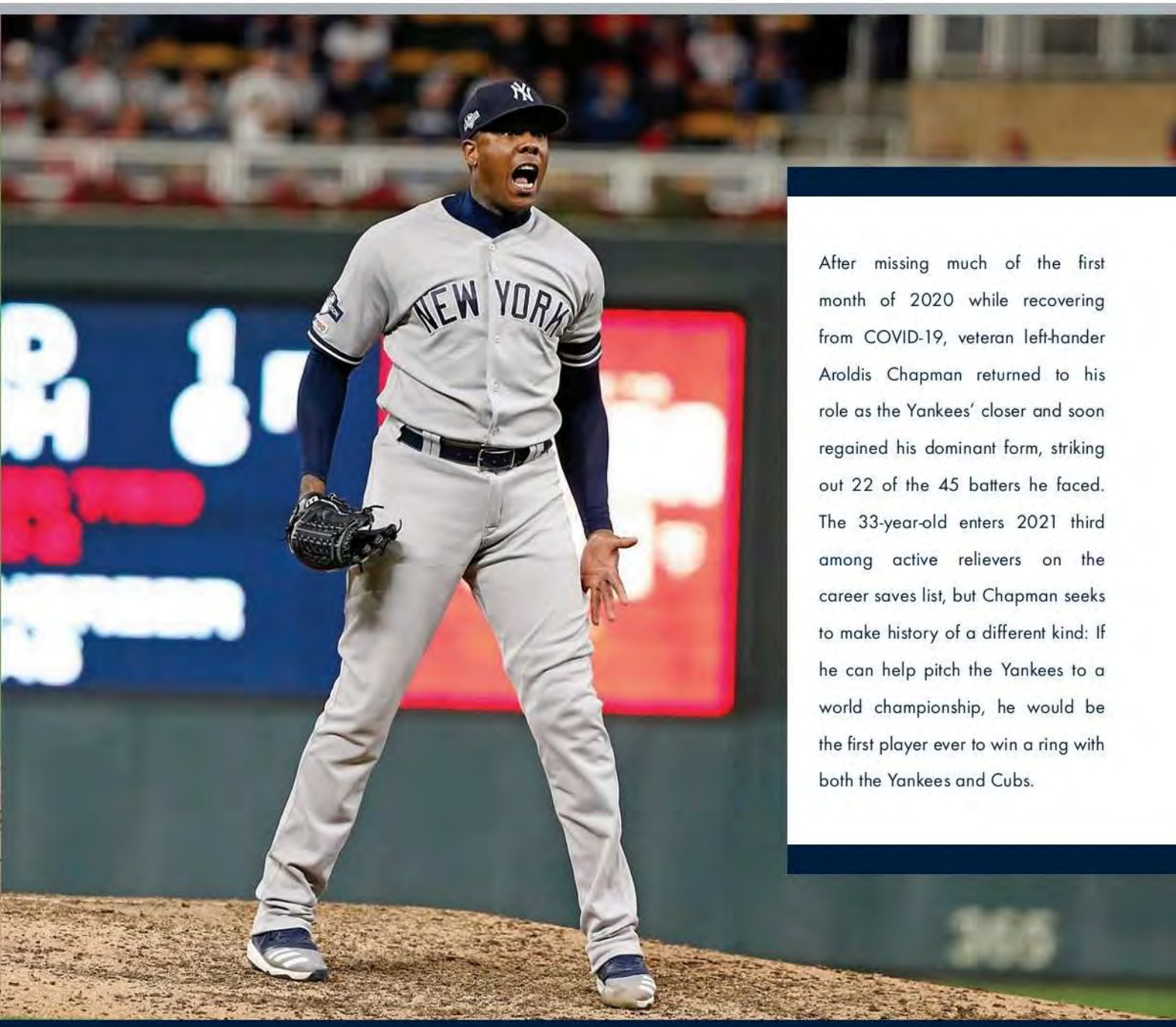
With the types of high-profile arms that the Yankees stack at the back of their bullpen, to say nothing of the frontline starters that the team has in its rotation, a guy like Luis Cessa can fly under the radar. But Yankees manager Aaron Boone has no reservations about calling on the Mexican right-hander in big spots. Cessa relies on a slider-heavy arsenal that stymies hitters looking to make hard contact, providing an excellent and increasingly trustworthy option for Boone to summon at any point in the game.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/25/92 • BIRTHPLACE: CÓRDOBA, MEXICO • HOMETOWN: CÁRDENAS, MEXICO

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	0	0	3.32	16	0	0	0	1	21.2	20	10	8	2	7	17
CAREER	7	12	4.40	102	19	0	0	4	253.2	246	136	124	44	82	207

54 AROLDIS CHAPMAN

P



After missing much of the first month of 2020 while recovering from COVID-19, veteran left-hander Aroldis Chapman returned to his role as the Yankees' closer and soon regained his dominant form, striking out 22 of the 45 batters he faced. The 33-year-old enters 2021 third among active relievers on the career saves list, but Chapman seeks to make history of a different kind: If he can help pitch the Yankees to a world championship, he would be the first player ever to win a ring with both the Yankees and Cubs.

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 2/28/88 • BIRTHPLACE: HOLGUÍN, CUBA • HOMETOWN: FRANK PAÍS, CUBA

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	1	1	3.09	13	0	0	0	3	11.2	6	4	4	2	4	22
CAREER	34	27	2.25	563	0	0	0	276	547.1	306	150	137	29	252	905

45 GERRIT COLE

P

By signing Gerrit Cole, the Yankees believed they had acquired the missing piece that would get them over the hump and bring World Series championship No. 28 to the Bronx. That didn't happen in 2020, but it certainly has the potential to in 2021. After a brilliant regular season, Cole shined in his first postseason in pinstripes, striking out 13 Cleveland batters in the 2020 American League Wild Card Series opener, and following that with two more dominant starts against Tampa Bay in the ALDS. After winning 101 games in his first eight big-league seasons, the best may still be ahead for the hardworking ace.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 9/8/90 • HOMETOWN: SANTA ANA, CA • SCHOOL: UCLA (LOS ANGELES, CA)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	7	3	2.84	12	12	2	1	0	73	53	27	23	14	17	94
CAREER	101	55	3.19	204	204	4	2	0	1,268	1,087	488	450	129	332	1,430

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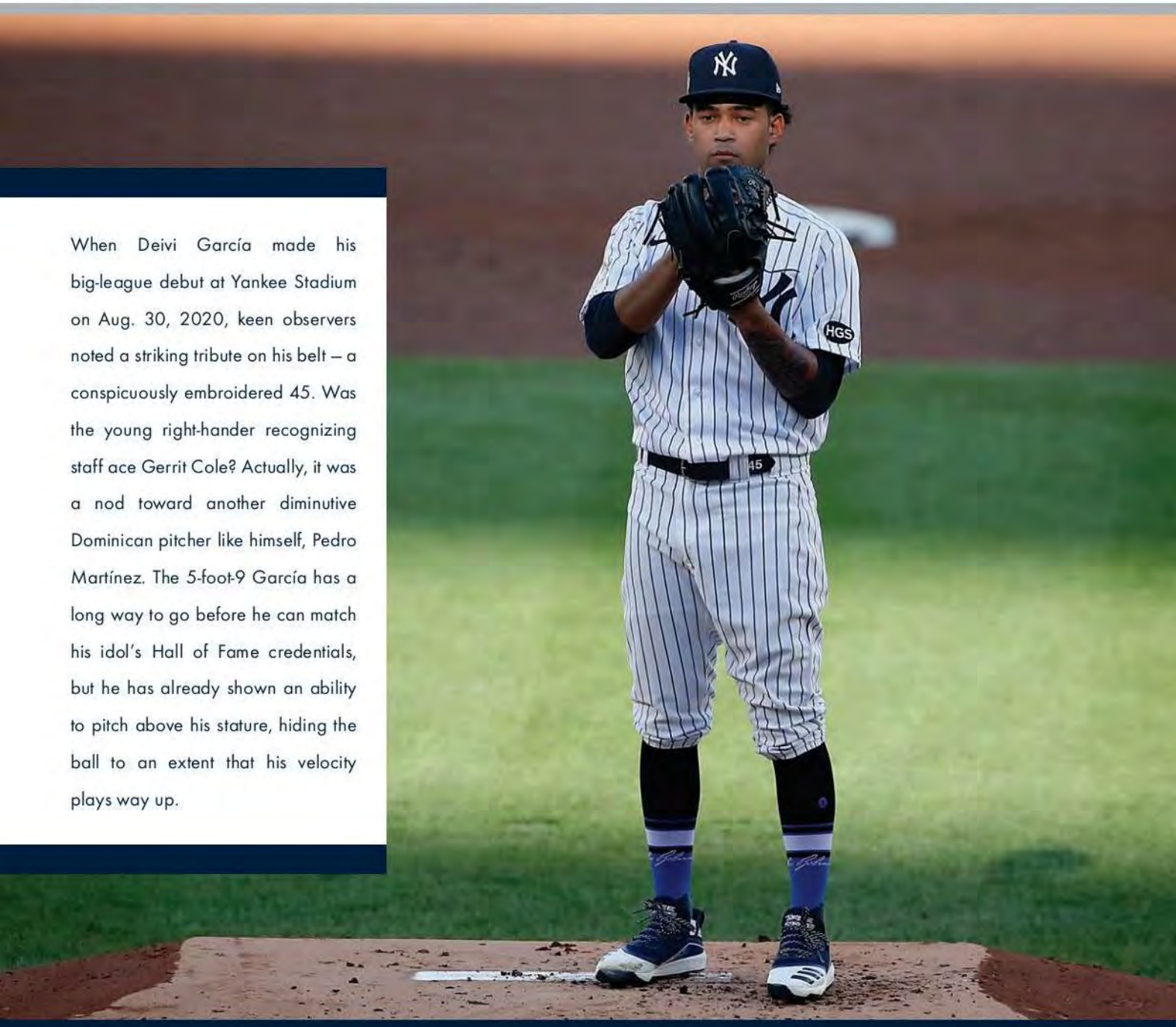
PORSCHE

83 DEIVI GARCÍA

P

When Deivi García made his big-league debut at Yankee Stadium on Aug. 30, 2020, keen observers noted a striking tribute on his belt – a conspicuously embroidered 45. Was the young right-hander recognizing staff ace Gerrit Cole? Actually, it was a nod toward another diminutive Dominican pitcher like himself, Pedro Martínez. The 5-foot-9 García has a long way to go before he can match his idol's Hall of Fame credentials, but he has already shown an ability to pitch above his stature, hiding the ball to an extent that his velocity plays way up.

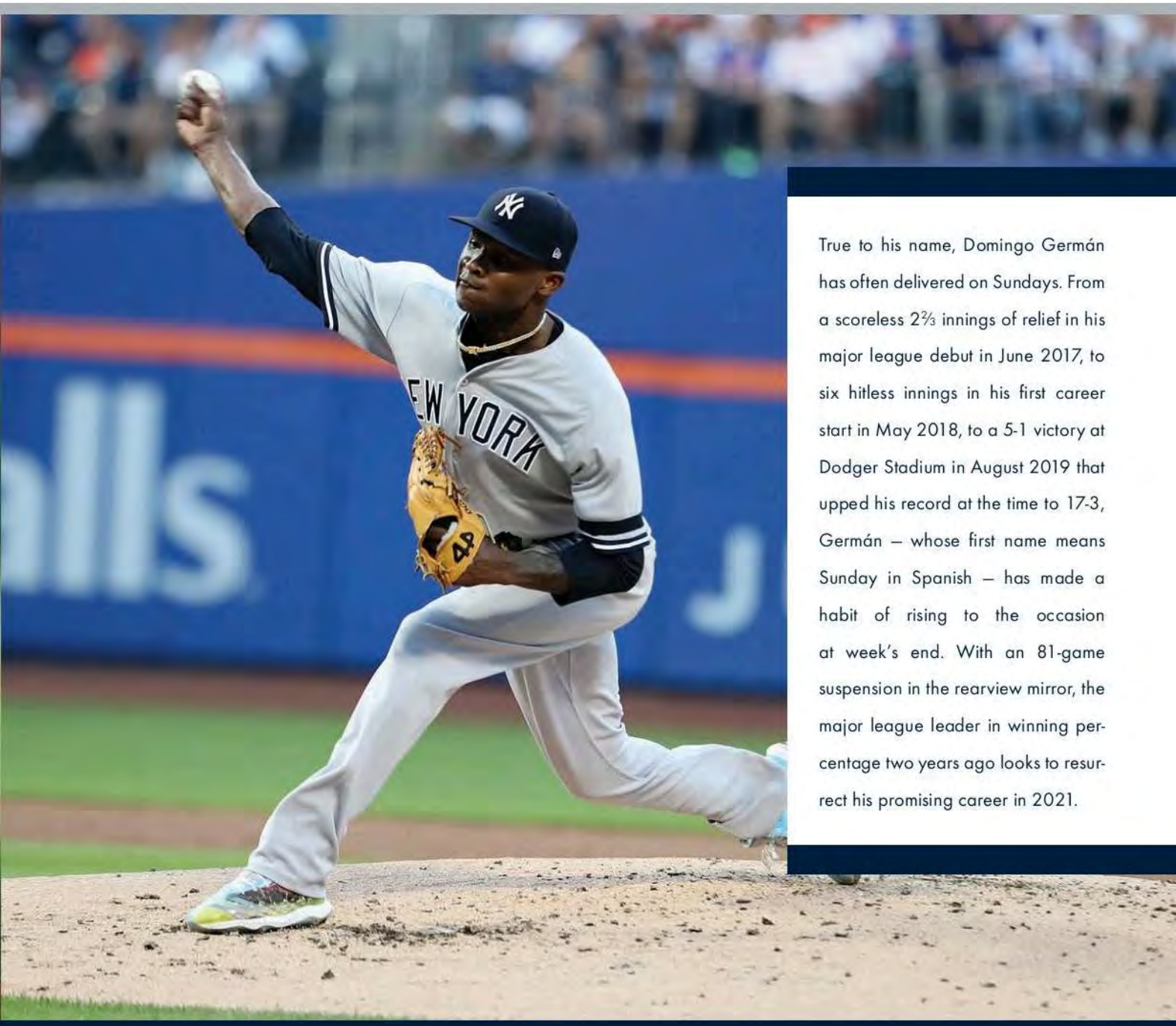


BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/19/99 • BIRTHPLACE: BONAO, D.R. • HOMETOWN: BONAO, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	3	2	4.98	6	6	0	0	0	34.1	35	20	19	6	6	33
CAREER	3	2	4.98	6	6	0	0	0	34.1	35	20	19	6	6	33

55 DOMINGO GERMÁN

P



True to his name, Domingo Germán has often delivered on Sundays. From a scoreless 2⅔ innings of relief in his major league debut in June 2017, to six hitless innings in his first career start in May 2018, to a 5-1 victory at Dodger Stadium in August 2019 that upped his record at the time to 17-3, Germán – whose first name means Sunday in Spanish – has made a habit of rising to the occasion at week's end. With an 81-game suspension in the rearview mirror, the major league leader in winning percentage two years ago looks to resurrect his promising career in 2021.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 8/4/92 • BIRTHPLACE: SAN PEDRO DE MACORÍS, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SAN PEDRO DE MACORÍS, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2020														
CAREER	20	11	4.52	55	38	0	0	0	243	217	130	122	46	81	273

81 LUIS GIL

P

After his progression was put on hold in 2020 due to Minor League Baseball's shutdown, Luis Gil (pronounced "HEEL") will resume his ascent toward the Bronx this season. Acquired from the Twins in March 2018, the Dominican right-hander posted a 1.96 ERA between Rookie and Short-Season A ball while striking out 13.3 batters per nine innings that season. In 2019, Gil was a South Atlantic League All-Star, recording a 2.39 ERA in 17 starts at Low-A Charleston before a promotion to High-A Tampa. He was tabbed by *Baseball America* as the Yankees' No. 4 prospect at the end of that season.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 6/3/98 • BIRTHPLACE: AZUA, D.R. • HOMETOWN: AZUA, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2020														
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN CAREER														

89 YOENDRYS GÓMEZ

P

Since signing with the Yankees in July 2016, Yoendrys Gómez has made steady improvement while adding strength during three seasons in Rookie ball. Gómez was at his best in 2019, when he earned a 4-2 record while posting a 2.12 ERA in six starts with Pulaski. Following that stint, the Venezuela native made the jump to Low-A, where he started six games for Charleston. Recognized as one of the Yankees' top 10 prospects by MLB.com in 2020, Gómez earned a spot on the team's 40-man roster last November.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 10/15/99 • BIRTHPLACE: NIRGUA, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: NIRGUA, VENEZUELA

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2020														
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN HIS CAREER														

57 CHAD GREEN

P

There's sometimes a sense in sports that the most versatile players are the ones who don't excel at any one specific discipline, but Chad Green more than proves otherwise. Between 2019 and 2020, he finished as many games as he started – 15 of each – as Yankees manager Aaron Boone deployed him in a wide variety of situations. A valuable opener one day, or a guy who can lock down the last few innings on another, Green is effective in any role, with a stoic demeanor on the mound that belies his ferocious fastball and impressive strikeout rate.

BATS: L • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/24/91 • HOMETOWN: EFFINGHAM, IL • SCHOOL: LOUISVILLE (LOUISVILLE, KY)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	3	3	3.51	22	0	0	0	1	25.2	13	13	10	5	8	32
CAREER	22	14	3.19	191	24	0	0	4	285	226	110	101	40	74	379

73 MICHAEL KING

P

Tossing 26⅔ innings during a 2020 season that felt more like a sprint than a marathon, Michael King continued his push toward the front of the pack. After racing up the ladder from Rookie ball to a late September big-league debut in 2019, King spent most of 2020 running with the big club, making four starts and earning his first career win. The Rhode Island product stayed on track in his one postseason appearance, spinning two perfect innings against the Rays in Game 3 of the American League Division Series.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/25/95 • HOMETOWN: WARWICK, RI • SCHOOL: BOSTON COLLEGE (CHESTNUT HILL, MA)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	1	2	7.76	9	4	0	0	0	26.2	30	23	23	5	11	26
CAREER	1	2	7.22	10	4	0	0	0	28.2	32	24	23	5	11	27

28 COREY KLUBER

P

One of the best pieces of news that Yankees hitters received last offseason was that they wouldn't have to face Corey Kluber in 2021. Although Kluber was sidelined by injuries for much of the last two seasons, his nine-year tenure with the Indians was nothing short of magnificent. He won two Cy Young Awards, taking home the honor in 2014, when he won 18 games and posted a career-high 269 strikeouts, and in 2017, when he again won 18 contests and led the majors with a 2.25 ERA. Kluber brings a decade of major league experience to the Bronx, along with a 98-58 record and a 3.16 ERA.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/10/86 • HOMETOWN: BIRMINGHAM, AL • SCHOOL: STETSON (DELAND, FL)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	0	0	0.00	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	1
CAREER	98	58	3.16	209	204	17	7	0	1,342.2	1,165	518	471	132	293	1,462

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82 BROOKS KRISKE

P

Brooks Kriske got his first taste of the majors in 2020, closing out the Yankees' 9-3 victory at Oriole Park at Camden Yards in late July. That moment came after years of hard work for the former collegiate standout, who posted a 3.28 ERA in 71 appearances at USC. After the Yankees selected Kriske in the sixth round of the 2016 draft, the right-hander missed all of 2017 while recovering from Tommy John surgery. But since then, he has climbed the organization's ladder, succeeding at every minor league level and earning consideration for more big-league work in 2021.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/3/94 • HOMETOWN: PALM DESERT, CA • SCHOOL: SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA (LOS ANGELES, CA)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	0	0	14.73	4	0	0	0	0	3.2	3	6	6	1	7	8
CAREER	0	0	14.73	4	0	0	0	0	3.2	3	6	6	1	7	8

43 JONATHAN LOAISIGA

P

One of 11 pitchers in big-league history to hail from Nicaragua, Jonathan Loaisiga was given a nickname that comes from an entirely different place. But "Jonny Lasagna" has the slim frame of a guy who never takes a second plate of the Italian favorite. The 5-foot-11, 165-pound right-hander relies on a high-90s fastball and puts hitters away with a curveball/changeup combo, unleashing pitches with an elite spin rate. Entering 2021, he had yet to appear in more than 15 games in a season, but whether starting or out of the 'pen, the versatile Loaisiga should get plenty of chances this season.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/2/94 • BIRTHPLACE: MANAGUA, NICARAGUA • HOMETOWN: MANAGUA, NICARAGUA

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	3	0	3.52	12	3	0	0	0	23	21	11	9	3	7	22
CAREER	7	2	4.42	36	11	0	0	0	79.1	78	44	39	12	35	92

80 LUIS MEDINA

P

After striking out 32 batters in 16⅔ innings and earning Puerto Rico's *Liga de Béisbol Profesional Roberto Clemente* Pitcher of the Year honors this past winter, Luis Medina showed why he has remained a fixture near the top of Yankees prospects lists. The 6-foot-1, 175-pound right-hander registered triple digits on the radar gun even before the Yankees signed him as a 16-year-old. If Medina can harness his otherworldly stuff and develop greater control – he uncorked 26 wild pitches in 20 starts for Low-A Charleston in 2019 – he'll be on the fast track to The Show.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/3/99 • BIRTHPLACE: NAGUA, D.R. • HOMETOWN: NAGUA, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2020														
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN HIS CAREER														

47 JORDAN MONTGOMERY P

Jordan Montgomery has come back from Tommy John surgery; now he's aiming to be the pitcher he was during his rookie season of 2017. The tall left-hander won nine games that season and recorded a 3.88 ERA in 29 starts. After missing most of the 2018 season and nearly the entire 2019 campaign, Montgomery earned a spot in the Yankees' 2020 starting rotation and made 10 starts over the course of the 60-game season, striking out more than a batter per inning. Now, at 28 years old, Montgomery is expected to build off of that progress in 2021.

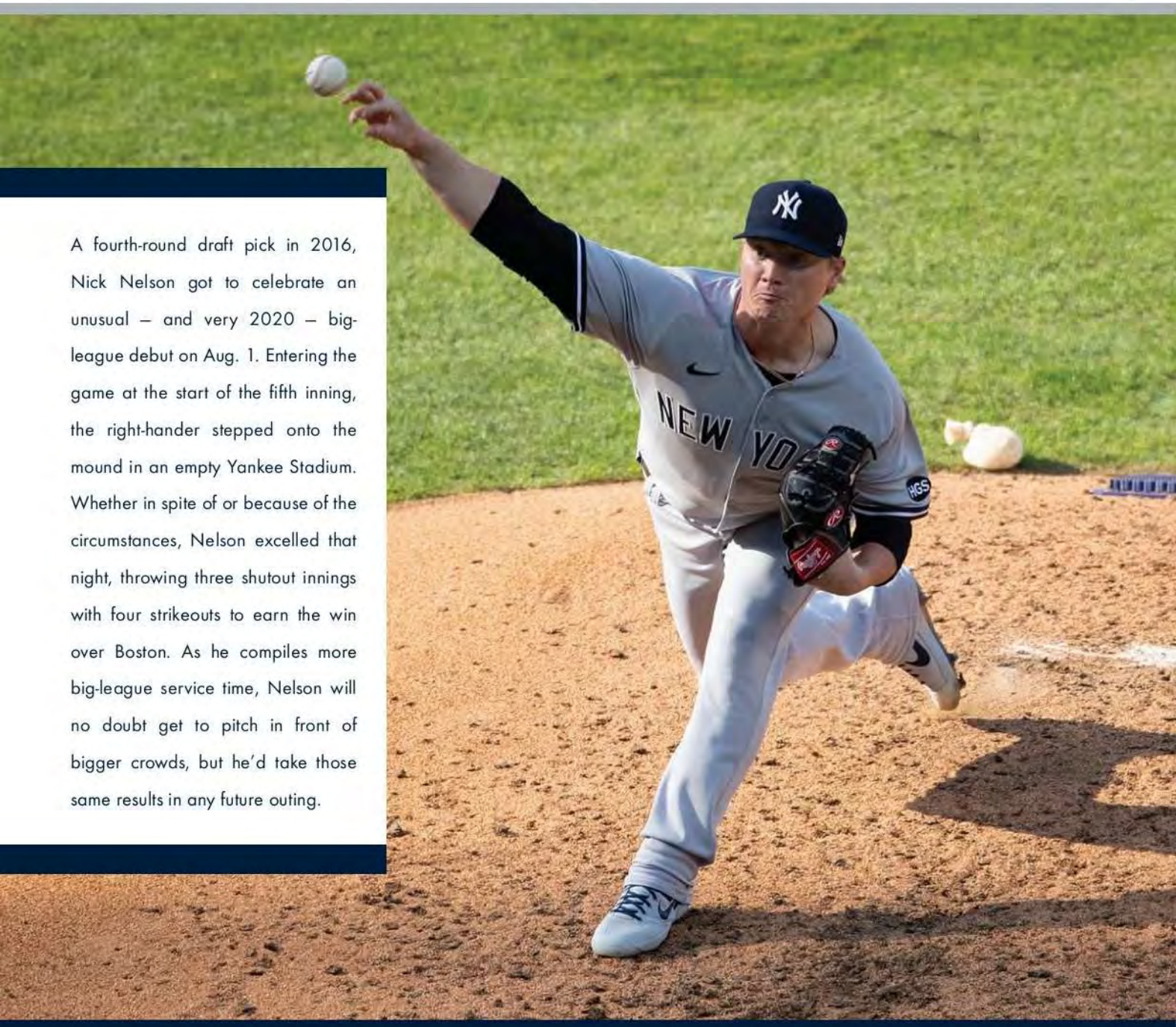
BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 12/27/92 • HOMETOWN: SUMTER, SC • SCHOOL: SOUTH CAROLINA (COLUMBIA, SC)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	2	3	5.11	10	10	0	0	0	44	48	27	25	7	9	47
CAREER	13	10	4.14	47	46	0	0	0	230.2	220	113	106	32	72	219

79 NICK NELSON

P

A fourth-round draft pick in 2016, Nick Nelson got to celebrate an unusual – and very 2020 – big-league debut on Aug. 1. Entering the game at the start of the fifth inning, the right-hander stepped onto the mound in an empty Yankee Stadium. Whether in spite of or because of the circumstances, Nelson excelled that night, throwing three shutout innings with four strikeouts to earn the win over Boston. As he compiles more big-league service time, Nelson will no doubt get to pitch in front of bigger crowds, but he'd take those same results in any future outing.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 12/5/95 • HOMETOWN: PANAMA CITY, FL • SCHOOL: GULF COAST COMMUNITY COLLEGE (PANAMA CITY, FL)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	1	0	4.79	11	0	0	0	0	20.2	20	13	11	4	11	18
CAREER	1	0	4.79	11	0	0	0	0	20.2	20	13	11	4	11	18

56 DARREN O'DAY

P

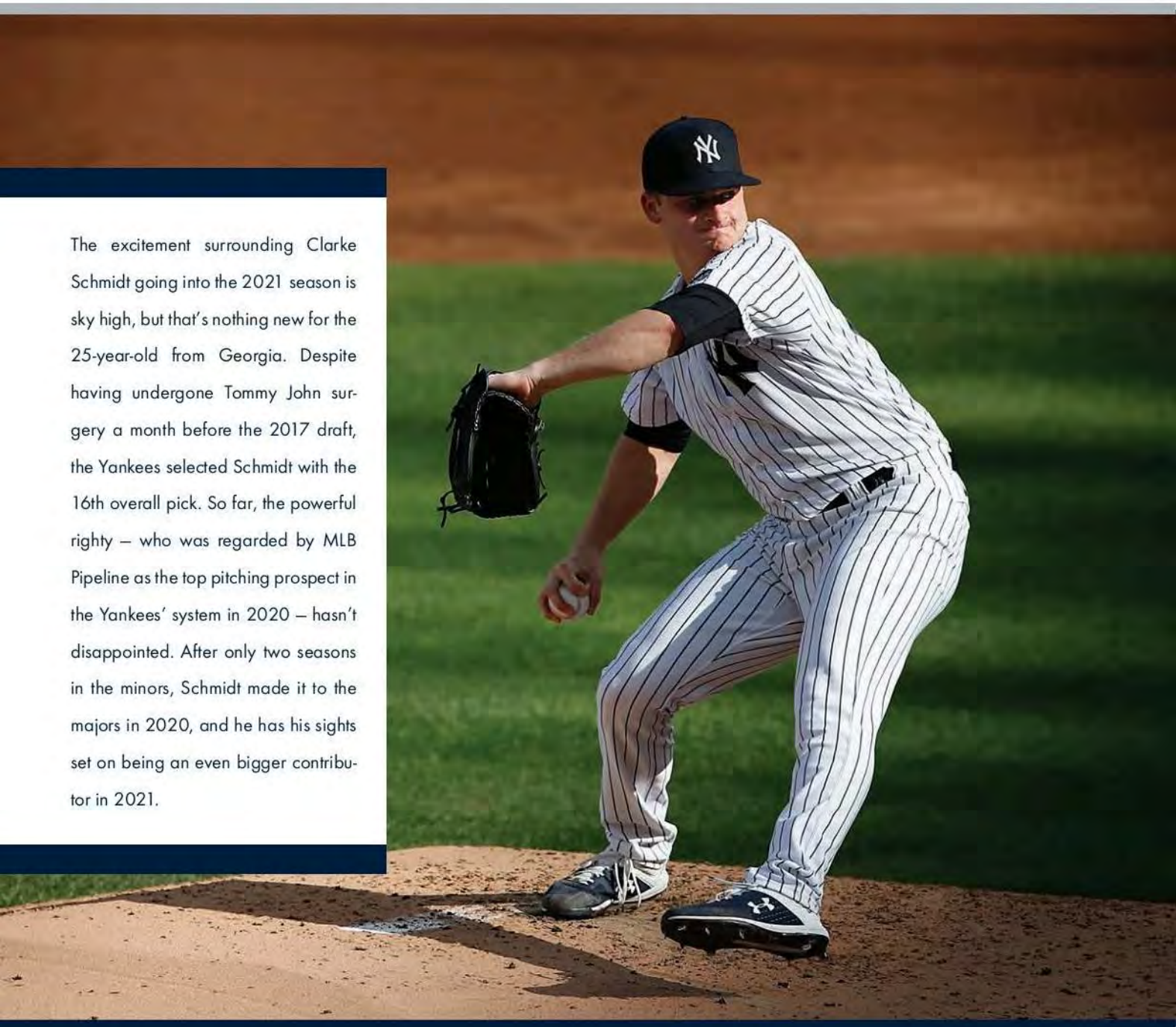
For most batters, it's hard enough keeping track of the different pitches that any individual hurler might throw. But imagine facing Darren O'Day, who attacks with one of the game's most unique deliveries, a sidearm motion that seems to originate from somewhere near the third-base bag. In a sport dominated by pitchers who hover near triple digits, O'Day might not melt radar guns with his mid-80s fastball, but the combination of deception and novelty has made the Florida native one of the most effective relievers in baseball for more than a decade.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 10/22/82 • HOMETOWN: JACKSONVILLE, FL • SCHOOL: FLORIDA (GAINESVILLE, FL)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	4	0	1.10	19	0	0	0	0	16.1	8	3	2	1	5	22
CAREER	40	19	2.51	604	0	0	0	21	576.2	430	173	161	59	158	600

86 CLARKE SCHMIDT

P



The excitement surrounding Clarke Schmidt going into the 2021 season is sky high, but that's nothing new for the 25-year-old from Georgia. Despite having undergone Tommy John surgery a month before the 2017 draft, the Yankees selected Schmidt with the 16th overall pick. So far, the powerful righty – who was regarded by MLB Pipeline as the top pitching prospect in the Yankees' system in 2020 – hasn't disappointed. After only two seasons in the minors, Schmidt made it to the majors in 2020, and he has his sights set on being an even bigger contributor in 2021.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/20/96 • HOMETOWN: ACWORTH, GA • SCHOOL: SOUTH CAROLINA (COLUMBIA, SC)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	0	1	7.11	3	1	0	0	0	6.1	7	5	5	0	5	7
CAREER	0	1	7.11	3	1	0	0	0	6.1	7	5	5	0	5	7

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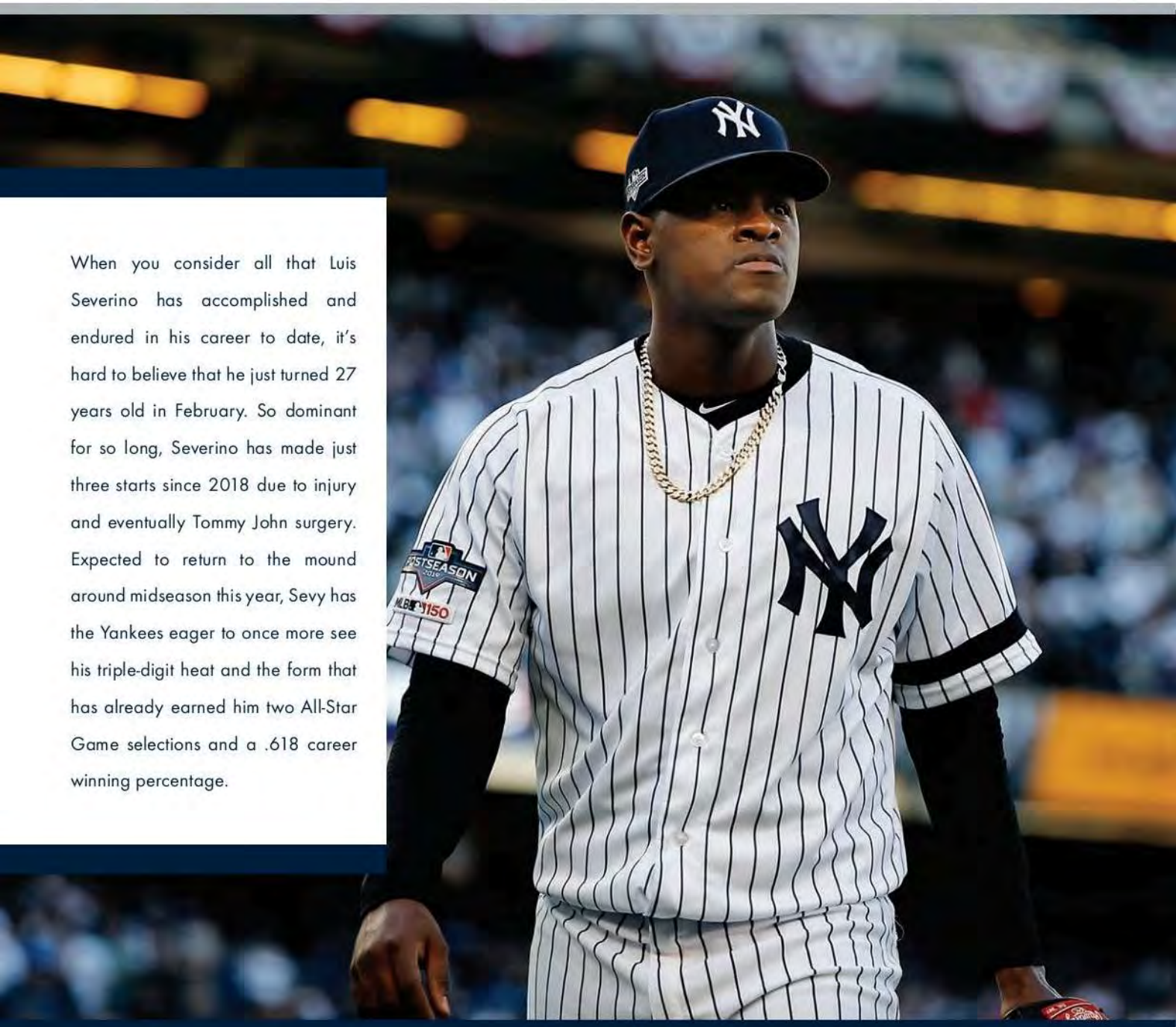
40 LUIS SEVERINO

P

When you consider all that Luis Severino has accomplished and endured in his career to date, it's hard to believe that he just turned 27 years old in February. So dominant for so long, Severino has made just three starts since 2018 due to injury and eventually Tommy John surgery. Expected to return to the mound around midseason this year, Sevy has the Yankees eager to once more see his triple-digit heat and the form that has already earned him two All-Star Game selections and a .618 career winning percentage.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/20/94 • BIRTHPLACE: SABANA DE LA MAR, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SABANA DE LA MAR, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2020														
CAREER	42	26	3.46	99	88	1	1	0	530	460	220	204	60	150	589

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50 JAMESON TAILLON

P

In four big-league seasons in Pittsburgh, Jameson Taillon laid the foundation for a promising pitching career. The No. 2 overall pick in 2010 was at his best in 2018, winning 14 games with a 3.20 ERA and 179 strikeouts in 191 innings. The next year, Taillon suffered a tendon strain in his right elbow that required Tommy John surgery, the second time Taillon underwent the procedure. The 29-year-old, for whom the Yankees traded in January, has not been shy about his excitement to now pitch for a perennial contender and to once again team up with former Pirate Gerrit Cole.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/18/91 • HOMETOWN: LAKELAND, FL • SCHOOL: THE WOODLANDS HS (WOODLANDS, TX)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2020														
CAREER	29	24	3.67	82	82	3	1	0	466	464	202	190	48	117	419

87 ALEXANDER VIZCAÍNO

P

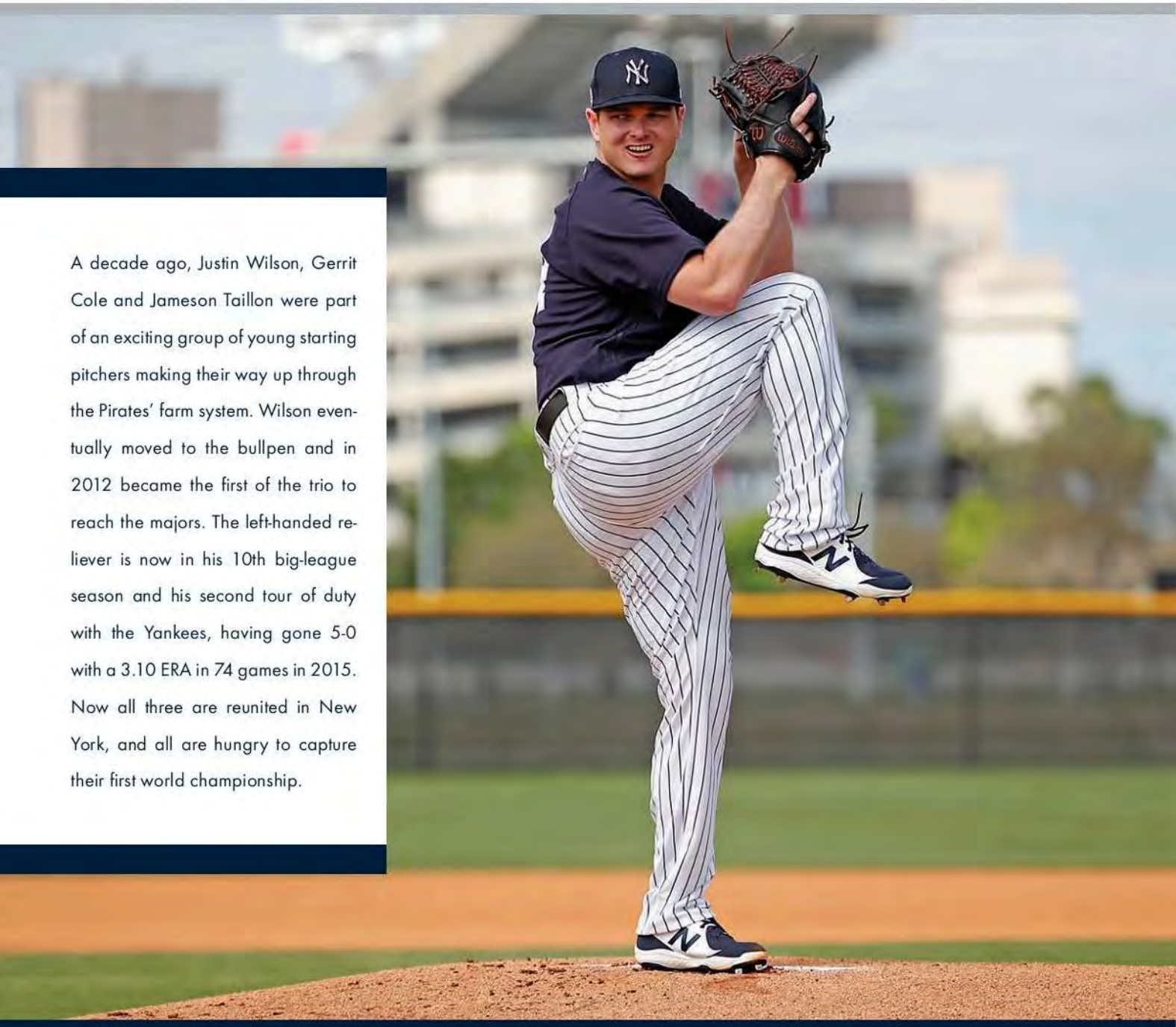
Alexander Vizcaíno made his presence known in 2019, reaching 100 mph on the radar gun with his fastball. With an improved changeup that crossed the plate in the low 90s, the 6-foot-2, 160-pound right-hander made 21 starts for the Yankees' Low-A and High-A affiliates that season, tossing a complete game for Low-A Charleston. Vizcaíno was ranked the Yankees' No. 8 prospect by MLB.com in 2020, and he was added to the team's 40-man roster last November. The native of the Dominican Republic began his professional career in the Dominican Summer League after signing his first professional contract in 2016.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 5/22/97 • BIRTHPLACE: SAN CRISTOBAL, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SAN CRISTOBAL, D.R.

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2020														
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN HIS CAREER														

34 JUSTIN WILSON

P



A decade ago, Justin Wilson, Gerrit Cole and Jameson Taillon were part of an exciting group of young starting pitchers making their way up through the Pirates' farm system. Wilson eventually moved to the bullpen and in 2012 became the first of the trio to reach the majors. The left-handed reliever is now in his 10th big-league season and his second tour of duty with the Yankees, having gone 5-0 with a 3.10 ERA in 74 games in 2015. Now all three are reunited in New York, and all are hungry to capture their first world championship.

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 8/18/87 • HOMETOWN: CLOVIS, CA • SCHOOL: FRESNO STATE (FRESNO, CA)

	W	L	ERA	G	GS	CG	SHO	SV	IP	H	R	ER	HR	BB	SO
2020	2	1	3.66	23	0	0	0	0	19.2	18	10	8	1	9	23
CAREER	32	22	3.27	480	0	0	0	18	429.1	355	165	156	32	194	474

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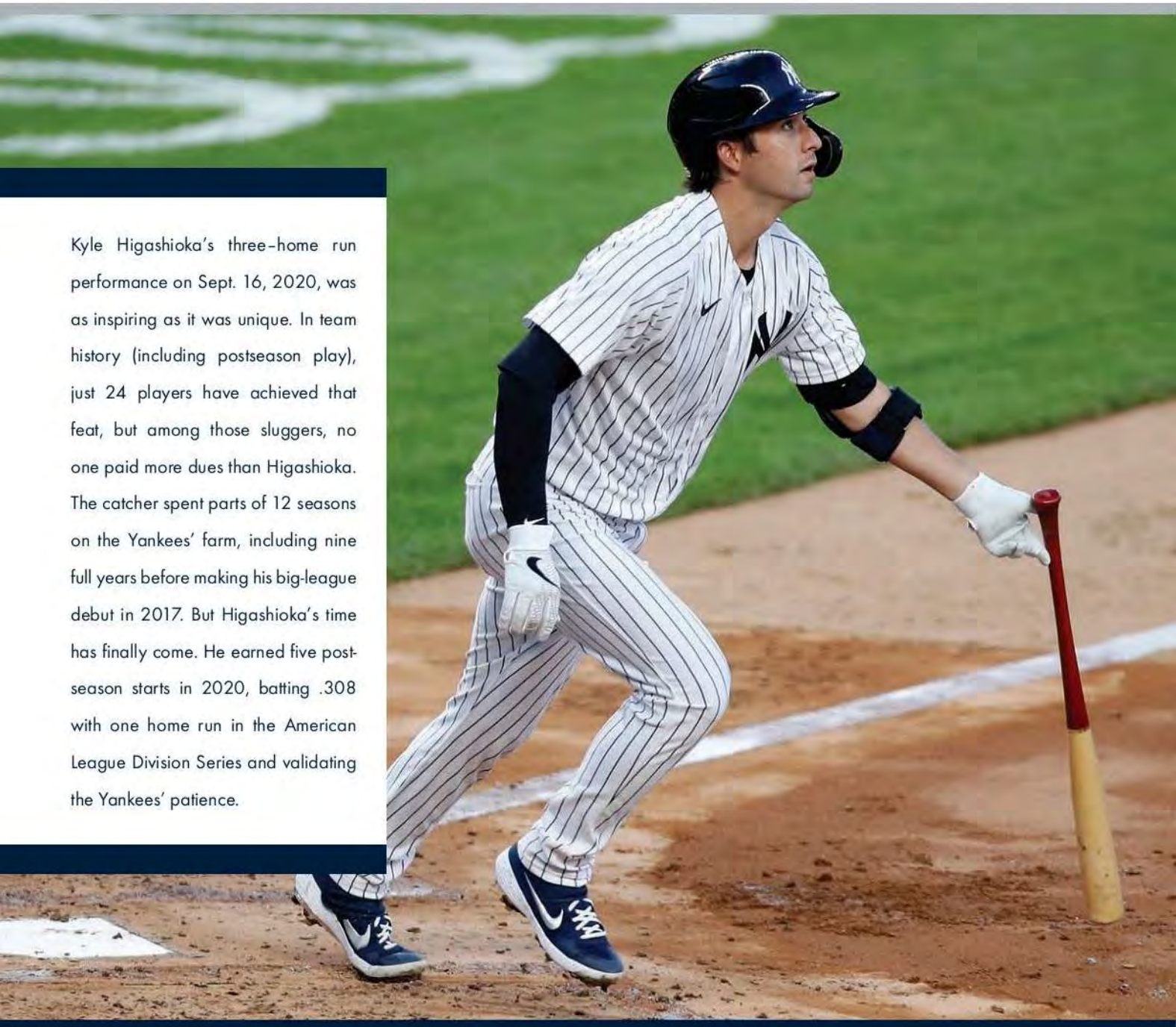
CATCHERS

66 KYLE HIGASHIOKA

C

Kyle Higashioka's three-home run performance on Sept. 16, 2020, was as inspiring as it was unique. In team history (including postseason play), just 24 players have achieved that feat, but among those sluggers, no one paid more dues than Higashioka. The catcher spent parts of 12 seasons on the Yankees' farm, including nine full years before making his big-league debut in 2017. But Higashioka's time has finally come. He earned five postseason starts in 2020, batting .308 with one home run in the American League Division Series and validating the Yankees' patience.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/20/90 • HOMETOWN: HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA • SCHOOL: EDISON HS (HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	16	48	7	12	1	0	4	10	0	0	11	.250	.250	.521
CAREER	72	194	23	36	8	0	10	27	0	8	59	.186	.221	.381

24 GARY SÁNCHEZ

C

By this point, there isn't a baseball fan on the planet who is unaware of what Gary Sánchez is capable of doing with the bat. He enters 2021 with 115 career homers in just 421 games, meaning that no matter the circumstance, he is always capable of driving the ball into the deepest reaches of the Yankee Stadium seats. Even amid his struggles in 2020, Sánchez still offered up a highlight for the ages in the second game of a doubleheader against the Mets on Aug. 30, hitting the first pinch-hit, extra-innings grand slam in Yankees history.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 12/2/92 • BIRTHPLACE: SANTO DOMINGO, D.R. • HOMETOWN: LA VICTORIA, D.R.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	49	156	19	23	4	0	10	24	0	18	64	.147	.253	.365
CAREER	421	1,549	245	366	65	1	115	286	4	168	461	.236	.320	.502

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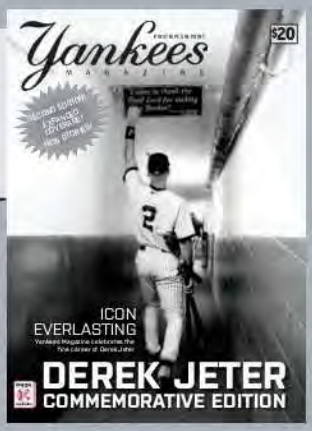

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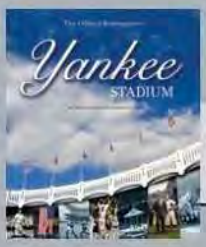

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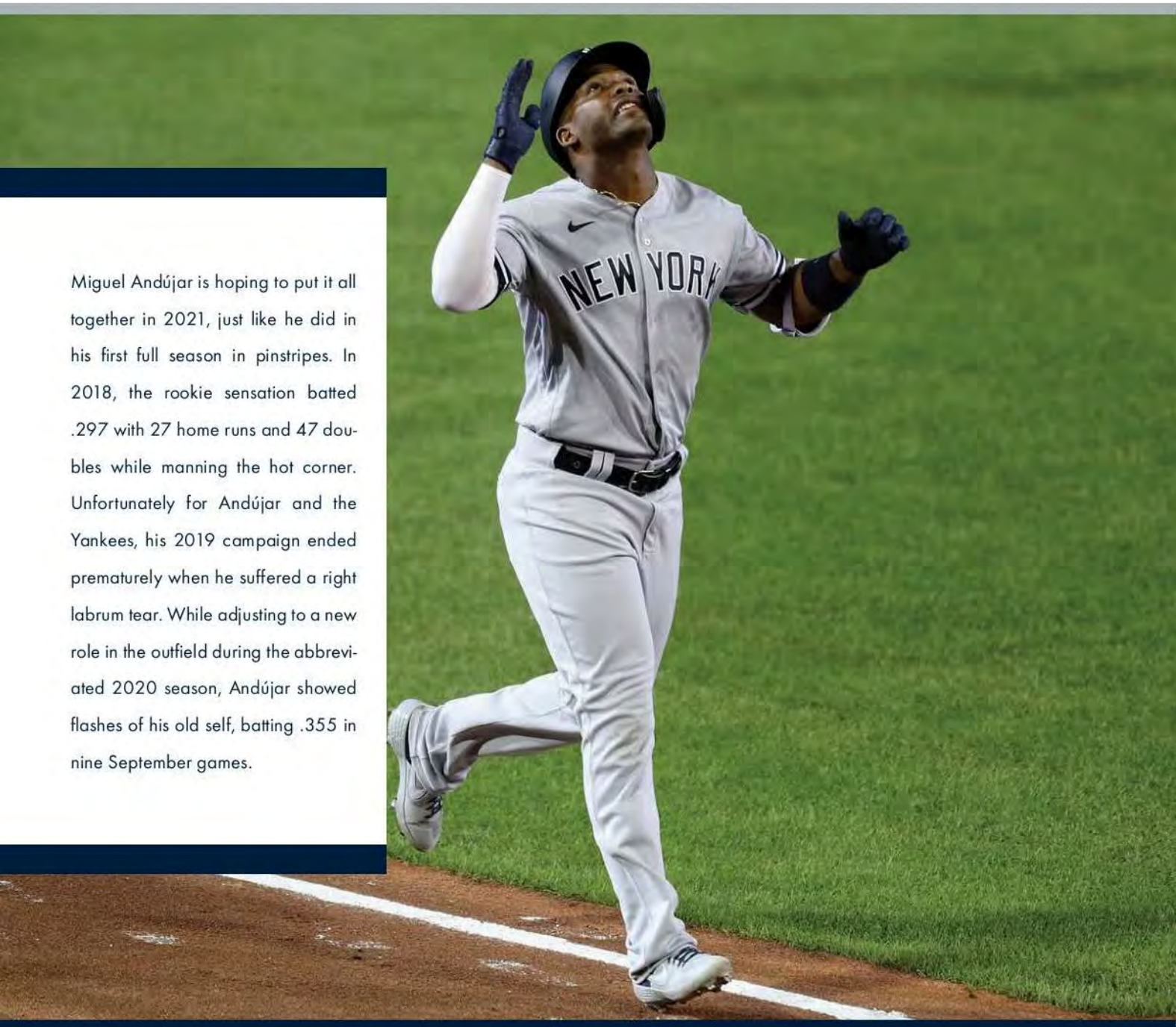
INF-OF



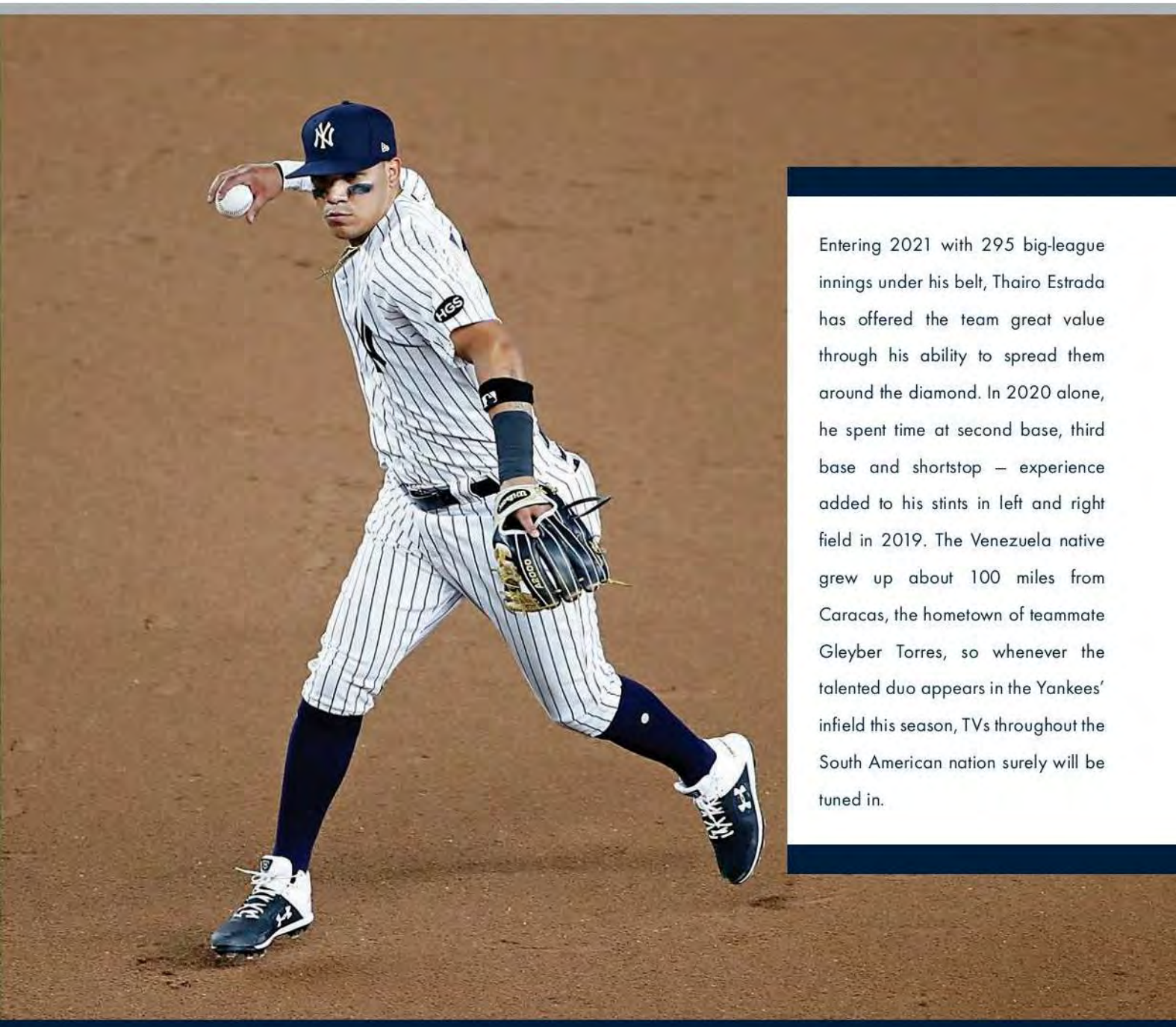
Miguel Andújar is hoping to put it all together in 2021, just like he did in his first full season in pinstripes. In 2018, the rookie sensation batted .297 with 27 home runs and 47 doubles while manning the hot corner. Unfortunately for Andújar and the Yankees, his 2019 campaign ended prematurely when he suffered a right labrum tear. While adjusting to a new role in the outfield during the abbreviated 2020 season, Andújar showed flashes of his old self, batting .355 in nine September games.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 3/2/95 • BIRTHPLACE: SAN CRISTÓBAL, D.R. • HOMETOWN: SAN CRISTÓBAL, D.R.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	21	62	5	15	2	1	1	5	0	3	9	.242	.277	.355
CAREER	187	689	89	195	51	3	28	102	3	30	117	.283	.315	.488

71 THAIRO ESTRADA

INF



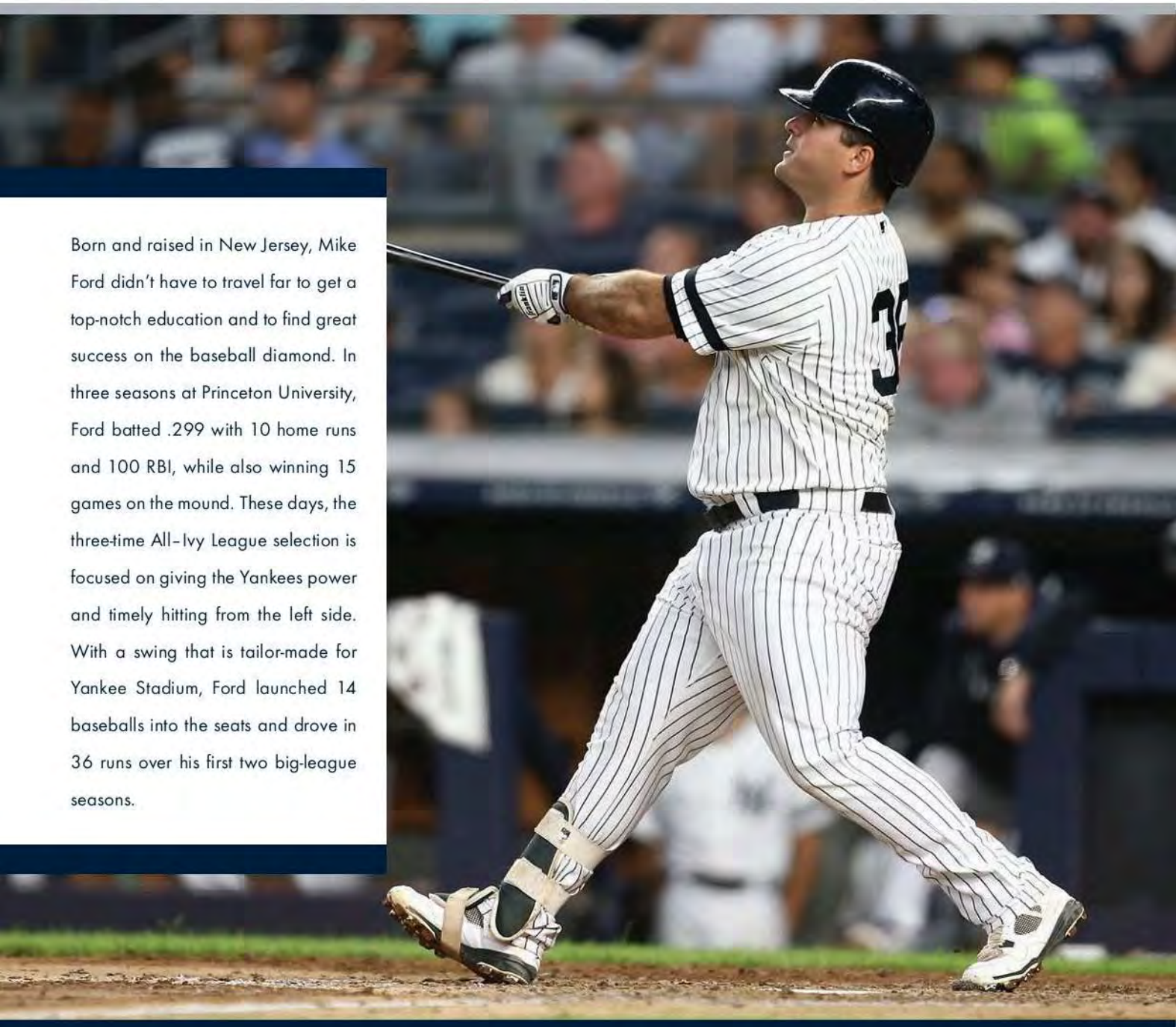
Entering 2021 with 295 big-league innings under his belt, Thairo Estrada has offered the team great value through his ability to spread them around the diamond. In 2020 alone, he spent time at second base, third base and shortstop – experience added to his stints in left and right field in 2019. The Venezuela native grew up about 100 miles from Caracas, the hometown of teammate Gleyber Torres, so whenever the talented duo appears in the Yankees' infield this season, TVs throughout the South American nation surely will be tuned in.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/22/96 • BIRTHPLACE: BEJUMA, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: BEJUMA, VENEZUELA

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	26	48	8	8	0	0	1	3	1	1	19	.167	.231	.229
CAREER	61	112	20	24	3	0	4	15	5	4	34	.214	.267	.348

36 MIKE FORD

INF



Born and raised in New Jersey, Mike Ford didn't have to travel far to get a top-notch education and to find great success on the baseball diamond. In three seasons at Princeton University, Ford batted .299 with 10 home runs and 100 RBI, while also winning 15 games on the mound. These days, the three-time All-Ivy League selection is focused on giving the Yankees power and timely hitting from the left side. With a swing that is tailor-made for Yankee Stadium, Ford launched 14 baseballs into the seats and drove in 36 runs over his first two big-league seasons.

BATS: L • THROWS: R • DOB: 7/4/92 • HOMETOWN: BELLE MEAD, NJ • SCHOOL: PRINCETON (PRINCETON, NJ)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	29	74	5	10	4	0	2	11	0	7	16	.135	.226	.270
CAREER	79	217	35	47	11	0	14	36	0	24	44	.217	.308	.461

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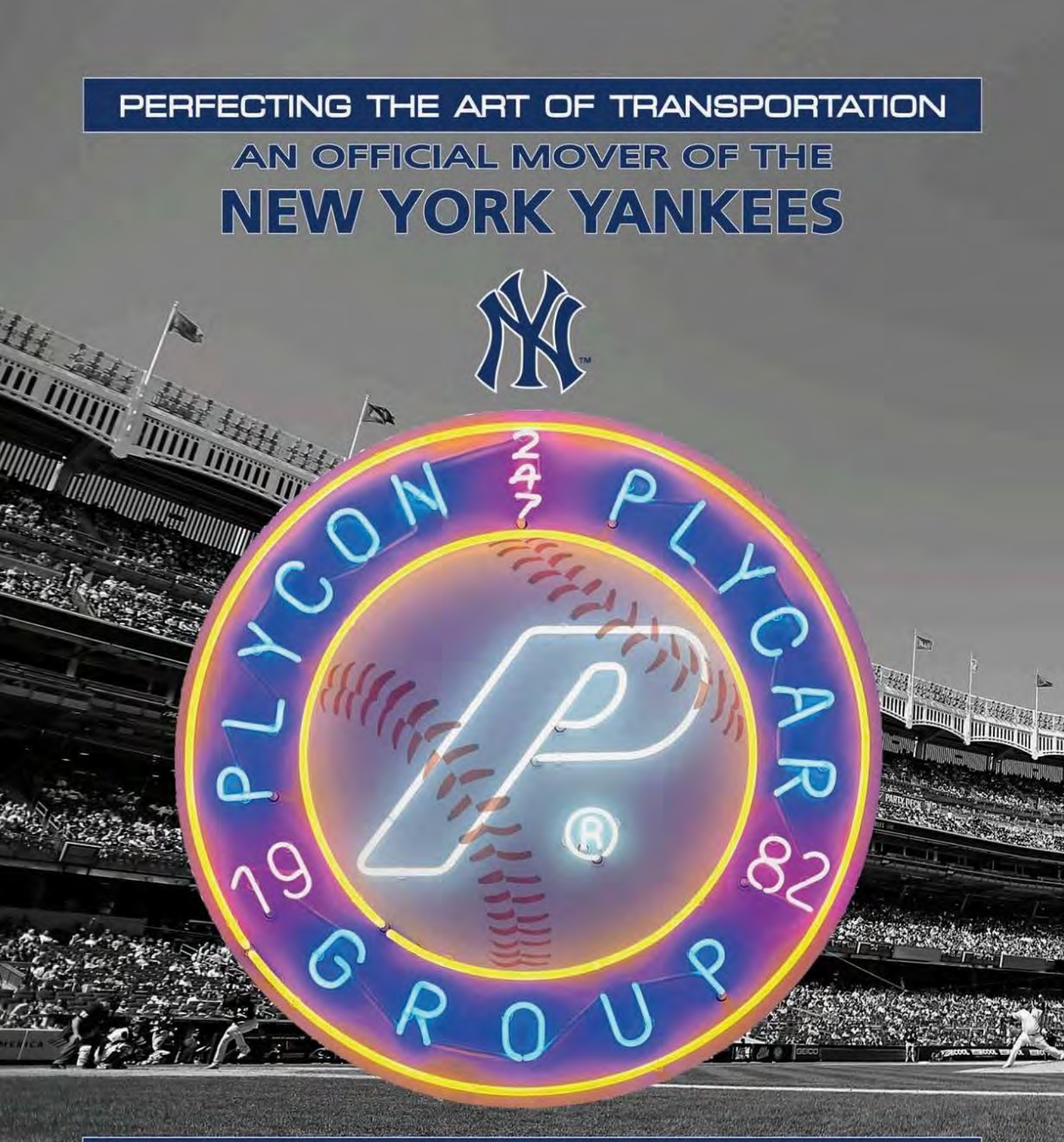

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26 DJ LeMAHIEU

INF

What a difference two years has made. When DJ LeMahieu first arrived in New York prior to the 2019 season, he did so to very little fanfare. Despite having won a National League batting title with the Rockies in 2016 and three Gold Glove awards at second base, LeMahieu didn't even have a definitive role. But the three-time All-Star quickly established himself as arguably the Yankees' most valuable player. He batted .327 with 26 home runs and 102 RBI in 2019, then won the American League batting title in 2020. To great anticipation and fanfare, the Yankees re-signed LeMahieu to a six-year contract in January.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 7/13/88 • HOMETOWN: BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI • SCHOOL: LSU (BATON ROUGE, LA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	50	195	41	71	10	2	10	27	3	18	21	.364	.421	.590
CAREER	1,150	4,242	651	1,294	206	35	85	478	83	342	688	.305	.357	.430

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91 OSWALD PERAZA

INF

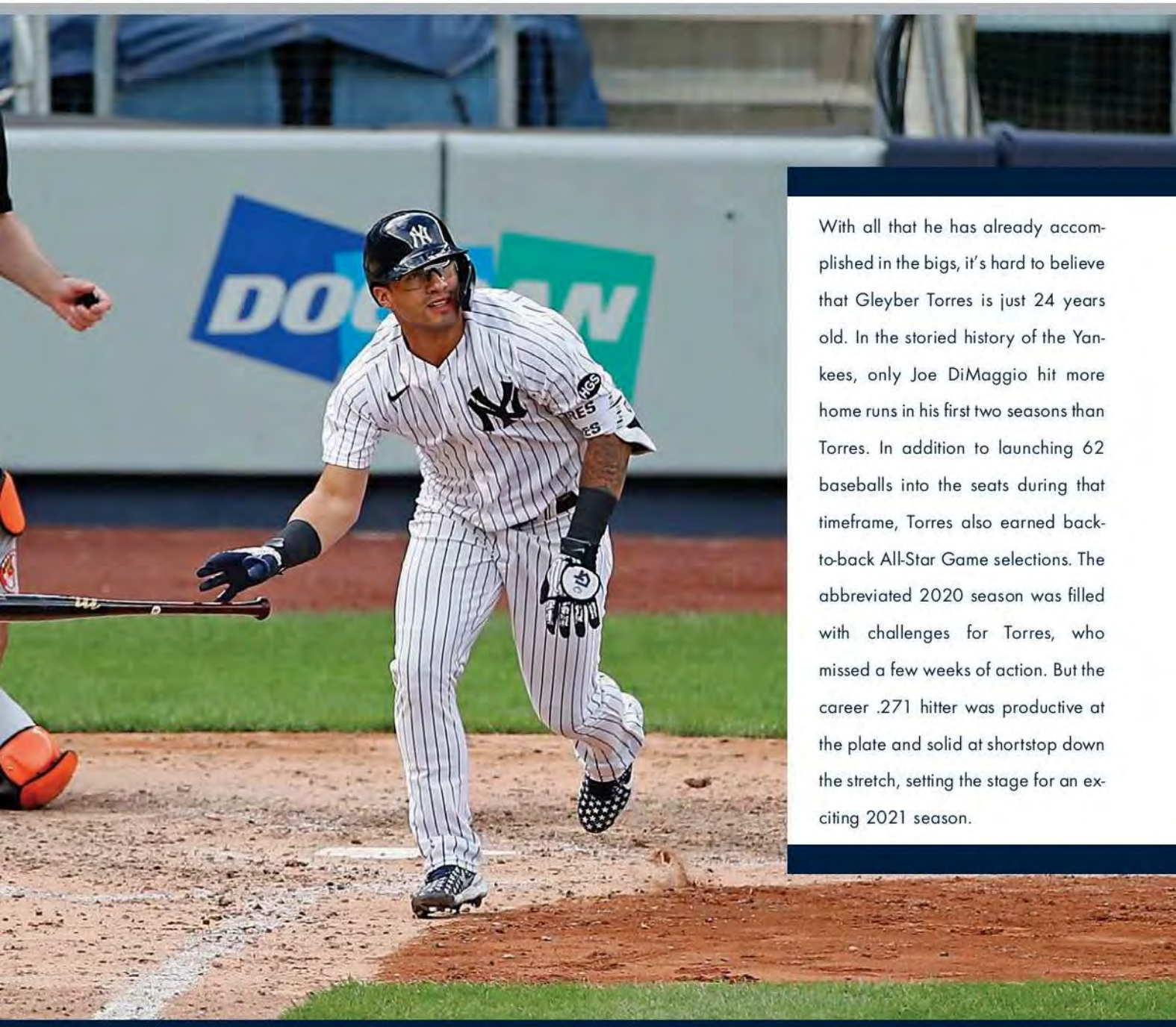
Someone is about to become the first player born in the 2000s to suit up for the Yankees. Oswald Peraza could be the guy. The speedy shortstop signed as a non-drafted free agent with the Yankees in 2016 and began racing up the prospect rankings lists. Entering 2021, he had collected 44 steals in 54 attempts across three minor league seasons (159 games) while posting a .350 on-base percentage. Touted for his baseball instincts and acumen, Peraza was added to the Yankees' 40-man roster last November – the youngest player on that list.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 6/15/00 • BIRTHPLACE: CABUDARE, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: BARQUISIMETO, VENEZUELA

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	DID NOT PLAY IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN 2020													
CAREER	HAS NOT PLAYED IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IN HIS CAREER													

25 GLEYBER TORRES

INF



With all that he has already accomplished in the bigs, it's hard to believe that Gleyber Torres is just 24 years old. In the storied history of the Yankees, only Joe DiMaggio hit more home runs in his first two seasons than Torres. In addition to launching 62 baseballs into the seats during that timeframe, Torres also earned back-to-back All-Star Game selections. The abbreviated 2020 season was filled with challenges for Torres, who missed a few weeks of action. But the career .271 hitter was productive at the plate and solid at shortstop down the stretch, setting the stage for an exciting 2021 season.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 12/13/96 • BIRTHPLACE: CARACAS, VENEZUELA • HOMETOWN: CARACAS, VENEZUELA

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	42	136	17	33	8	0	3	16	1	22	28	.243	.356	.368
CAREER	309	1,113	167	302	50	1	65	183	12	112	279	.271	.340	.493

29 GIO URSHELA

INF

Every time Gio Urshela hits a ball out of the park – far more common than fans had any right to expect when the Yankees acquired him for cash in 2018 – WFAN radio announcer John Sterling is sure to remind listeners that Urshela is, indeed, "The Most Happy Fella." Yet even for those watching in person, Urshela's joy needs no narration. A stud at the plate who also plays Gold Glove-caliber defense, the Colombia native is always smiling on the field, reveling in moments both ordinary or time-stopping – such as his game-turning grand slam in the 2020 Wild Card Series.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 10/11/91 • BIRTHPLACE: CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA • HOMETOWN: CARTAGENA, COLOMBIA

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	43	151	24	45	11	0	6	30	1	18	25	.298	.368	.490
CAREER	342	1,059	143	289	61	1	35	143	2	71	202	.273	.322	.432

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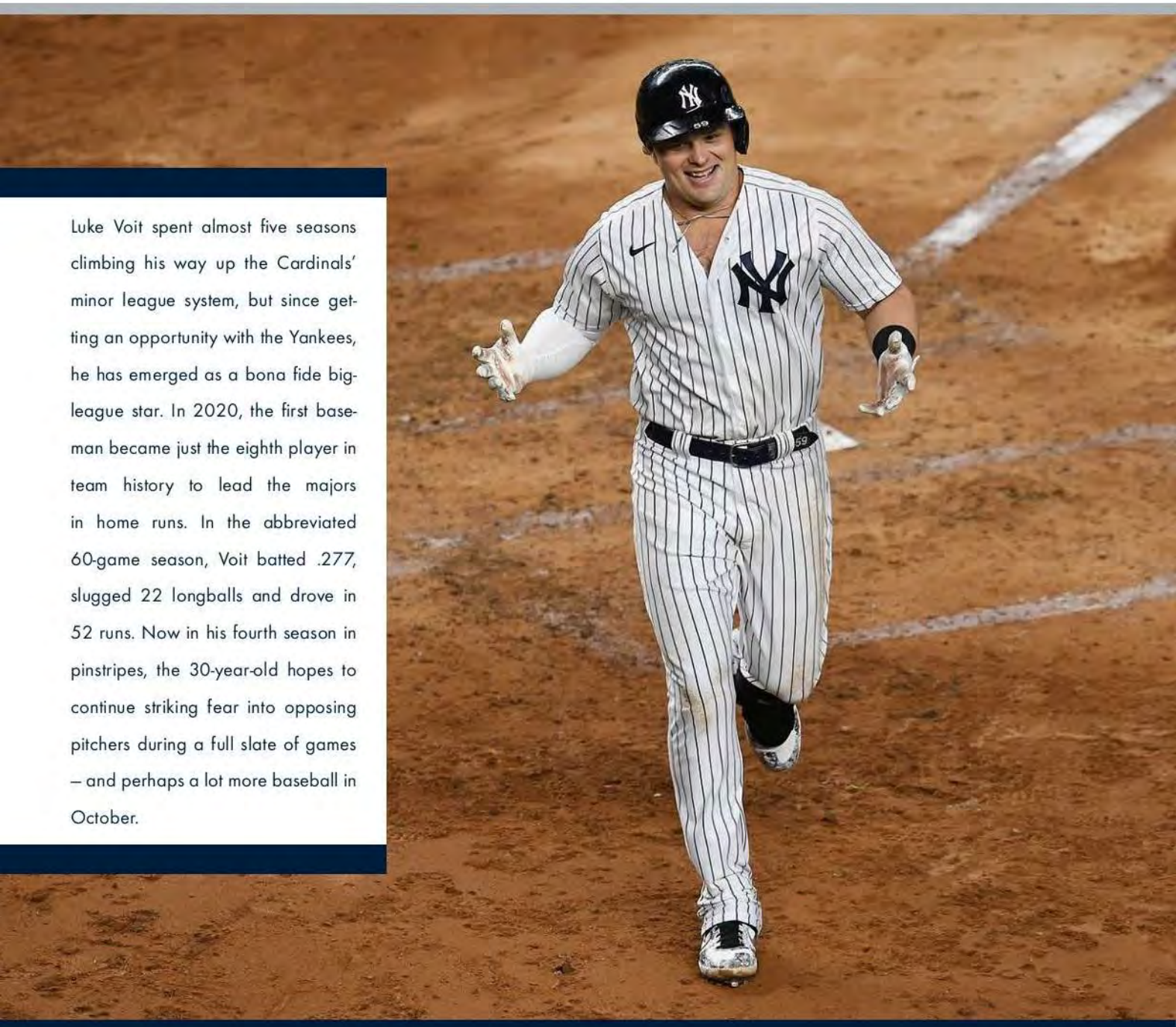
59 LUKE VOIT

INF



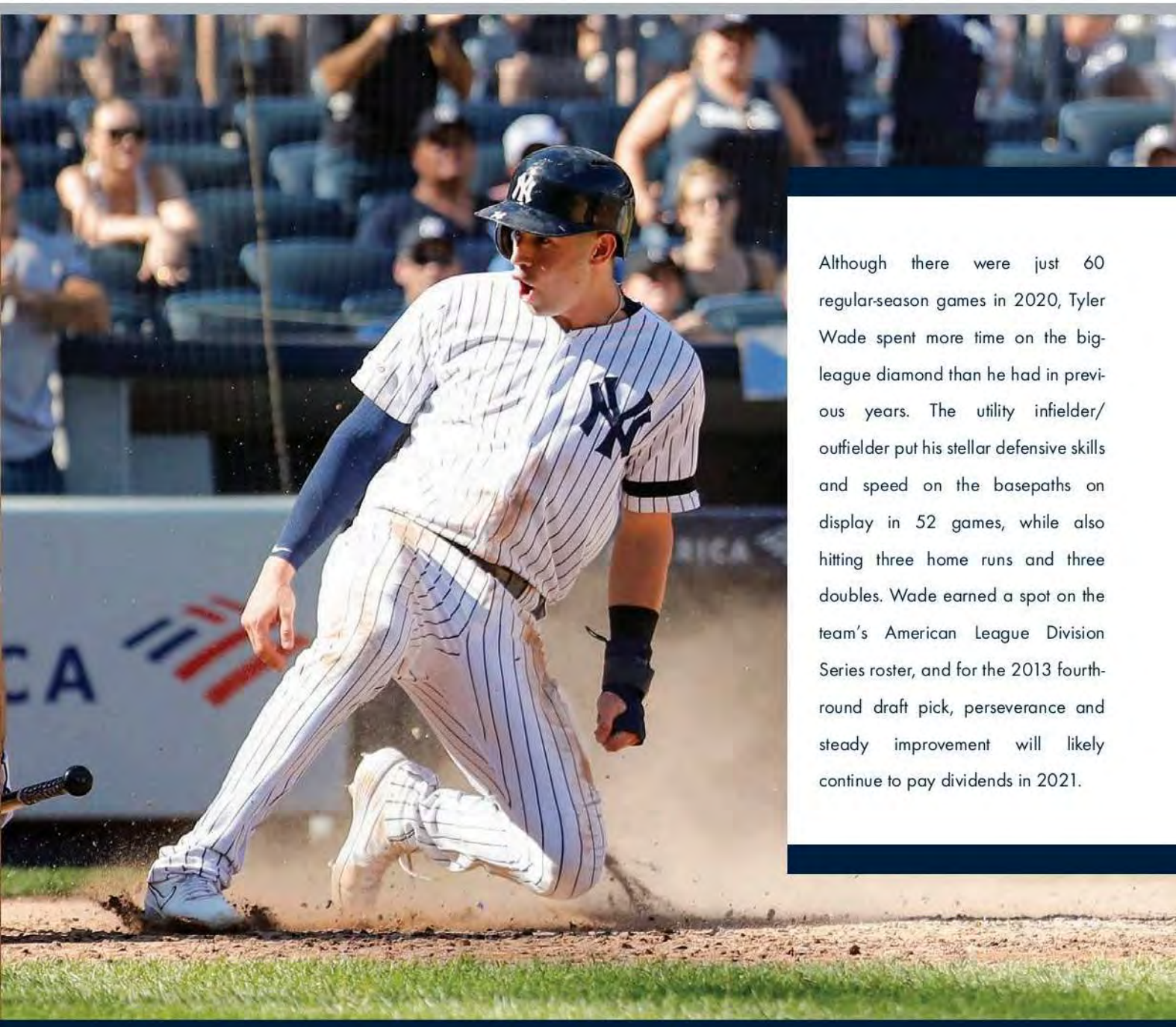
Luke Voit spent almost five seasons climbing his way up the Cardinals' minor league system, but since getting an opportunity with the Yankees, he has emerged as a bona fide big-league star. In 2020, the first baseman became just the eighth player in team history to lead the majors in home runs. In the abbreviated 60-game season, Voit batted .277, slugged 22 longballs and drove in 52 runs. Now in his fourth season in pinstripes, the 30-year-old hopes to continue striking fear into opposing pitchers during a full slate of games – and perhaps a lot more baseball in October.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 2/13/91 • HOMETOWN: WILDWOOD, MO • SCHOOL: MISSOURI STATE (SPRINGFIELD, MO)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	56	213	41	59	5	0	22	52	0	17	54	.277	.338	.610
CAREER	283	899	161	246	40	1	62	168	0	112	270	.274	.363	.527

14 TYLER WADE

INF-OF



Although there were just 60 regular-season games in 2020, Tyler Wade spent more time on the big-league diamond than he had in previous years. The utility infielder/outfielder put his stellar defensive skills and speed on the basepaths on display in 52 games, while also hitting three home runs and three doubles. Wade earned a spot on the team's American League Division Series roster, and for the 2013 fourth-round draft pick, perseverance and steady improvement will likely continue to pay dividends in 2021.

BATS: L • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/23/94 • HOMETOWN: MURRIETA, CA • SCHOOL: MURRIETA VALLEY HS (MURRIETA, CA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	52	88	19	15	3	0	3	10	4	12	22	.170	.288	.307
CAREER	161	306	50	58	14	1	6	28	13	32	92	.190	.274	.301

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OUTFIELDERS

90 ESTEVAN FLORIAL

OF

The name Estevan Florial has appeared near the top of the organization's prospect rankings ever since the Yankees signed him in 2015. Widely viewed as the prize of the international free-agent class of 2014, Florial was forced to wait before signing due to a paperwork issue. His patience was rewarded as he joined the organization he long dreamed of playing for, and after working his way up through the Yankees' minor league system, he finally made his big-league debut on Aug. 28, 2020. Yankees fans have much to look forward to as the five-tool weapon earns more ABs.

BATS: L • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/25/97 • BIRTHPLACE: BARAHONA, D.R. • HOMETOWN: BARAHONA, D.R.

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	.333	.333	.333
CAREER	1	3	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	.333	.333	.333

77 CLINT FRAZIER

OF

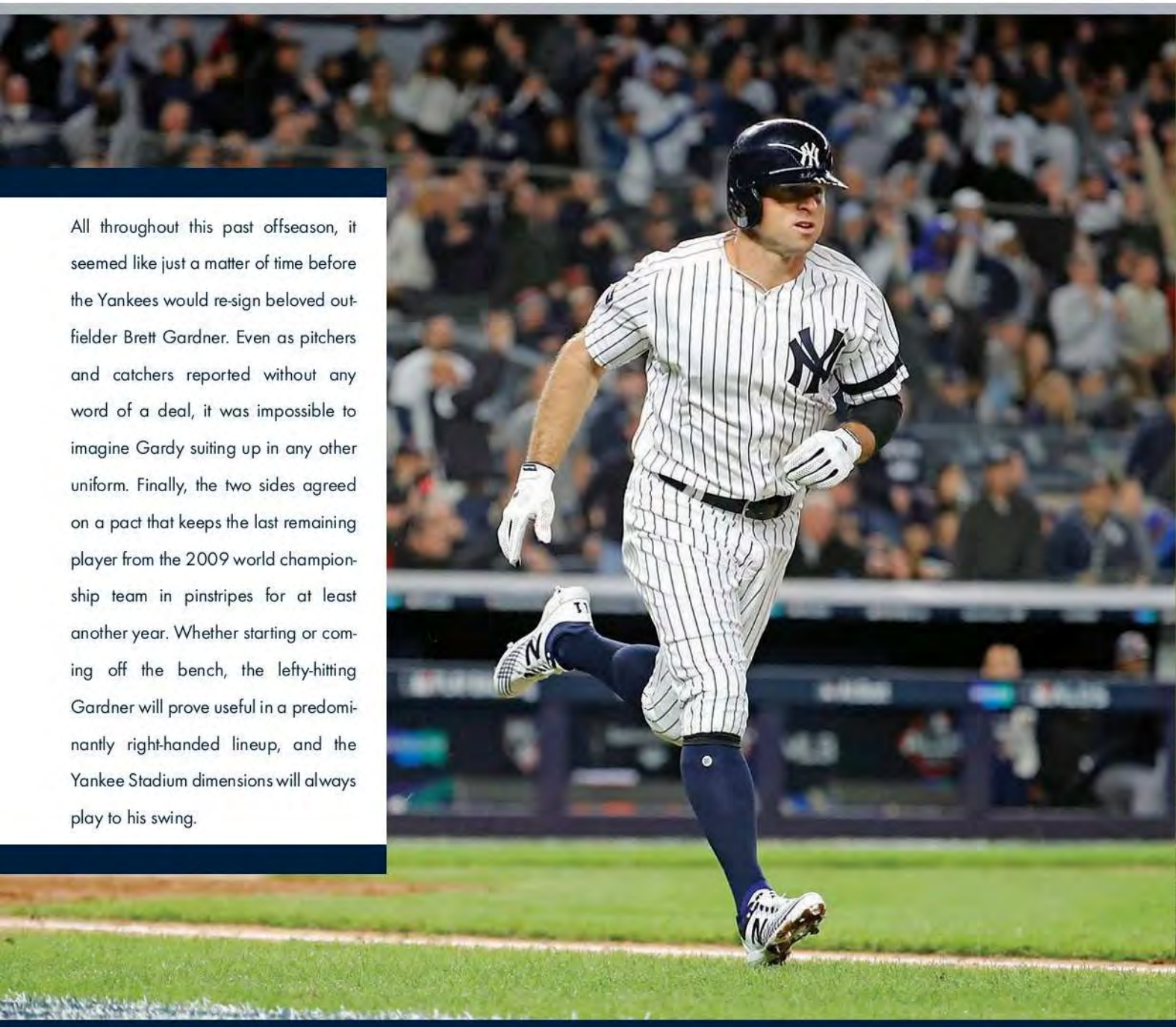
Playing with a mask on his face in empty stadiums, Clint Frazier quietly upped his game in 2020, posting the best slash line (.267/.394/.511) of his young career. Even more impressive were the strides Frazier made on defense: Handling right field duties while Aaron Judge got healthy, Frazier made himself into a Gold Glove Award finalist. A 2013 first-round pick (fifth overall) by Cleveland who arrived in New York as part of a trade package for Andrew Miller in July 2016, Frazier will look to build on that momentum in 2021 and cement his role as an everyday player.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 9/6/94 • HOMETOWN: LOGANVILLE, GA • SCHOOL: LOGANVILLE HS (LOGANVILLE, GA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	39	131	24	35	6	1	8	26	3	25	44	.267	.394	.511
CAREER	162	524	80	135	32	5	24	82	5	53	170	.258	.331	.475

11 BRETT GARDNER

OF



All throughout this past offseason, it seemed like just a matter of time before the Yankees would re-sign beloved outfielder Brett Gardner. Even as pitchers and catchers reported without any word of a deal, it was impossible to imagine Gardy suiting up in any other uniform. Finally, the two sides agreed on a pact that keeps the last remaining player from the 2009 world championship team in pinstripes for at least another year. Whether starting or coming off the bench, the lefty-hitting Gardner will prove useful in a predominantly right-handed lineup, and the Yankee Stadium dimensions will always play to his swing.

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 8/24/83 • HOMETOWN: HOLLY HILL, SC • SCHOOL: COLLEGE OF CHARLESTON (CHARLESTON, SC)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	49	130	20	29	5	1	5	15	3	26	35	.223	.354	.392
CAREER	1,548	5,350	896	1,384	235	69	129	539	270	639	1,145	.259	.343	.401

31 AARON HICKS

OF

For Aaron Hicks, the 2021 season is all about optimism. Following an injury-filled 2019 campaign, the center fielder earned a unique distinction in 2020, returning from offseason UCL reconstruction surgery in time for Opening Day. In the shortened season that began in late July, Hicks showed he was 100 percent healthy, posting a career-high .379 on-base percentage. He then turned it up a notch in the five-game American League Division Series against Tampa Bay, batting .389 with a .455 on-base percentage. With a full offseason to prepare for 2021, Hicks is out to prove he is among the game's best switch-hitters.

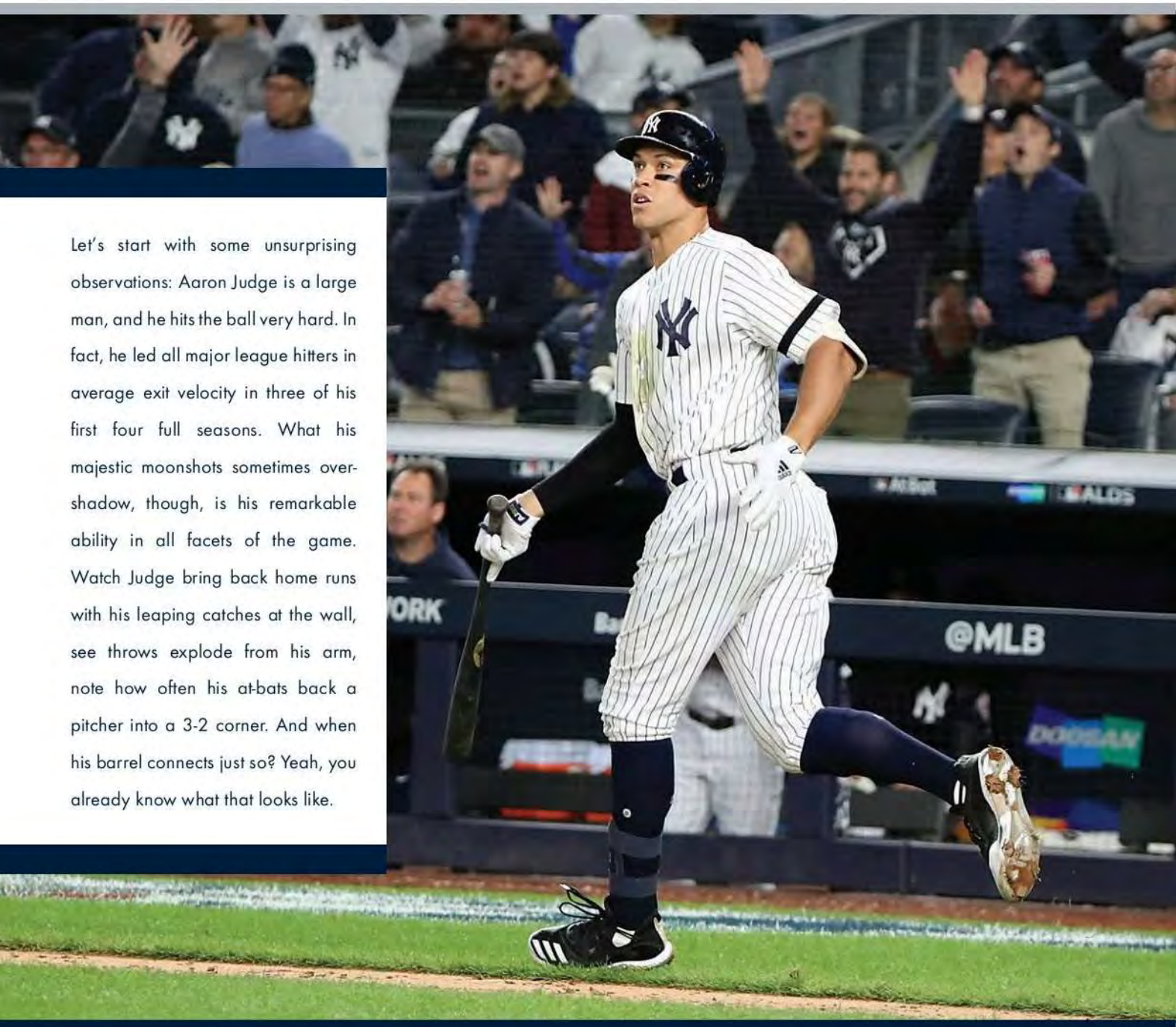
BATS: S • THROWS: R • DOB: 10/2/89 • HOMETOWN: LONG BEACH, CA • SCHOOL: WOODROW WILSON HS (LONG BEACH, CA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	54	169	28	38	10	2	6	21	4	41	38	.225	.379	.414
CAREER	708	2,317	352	544	99	12	88	297	55	337	562	.235	.332	.402

99 AARON JUDGE

OF

Let's start with some unsurprising observations: Aaron Judge is a large man, and he hits the ball very hard. In fact, he led all major league hitters in average exit velocity in three of his first four full seasons. What his majestic moonshots sometimes overshadow, though, is his remarkable ability in all facets of the game. Watch Judge bring back home runs with his leaping catches at the wall, see throws explode from his arm, note how often his at-bats back a pitcher into a 3-2 corner. And when his barrel connects just so? Yeah, you already know what that looks like.



BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 4/26/92 • HOMETOWN: LINDEN, CA • SCHOOL: FRESNO STATE (FRESNO, CA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	28	101	23	26	3	0	9	22	0	10	32	.257	.336	.554
CAREER	424	1,518	313	413	69	4	119	268	18	286	575	.272	.390	.558

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27 GIANCARLO STANTON

OF

With 312 career home runs and several comebacks from injury, Giancarlo Stanton has had a baseball journey resembling a turbulent decade on Wall Street. He won the 2017 National League MVP Award after hitting 59 home runs with the Marlins, and one season later, he slugged 38 longballs for the Yankees. Injuries derailed Stanton's next two seasons, but after putting up impressive October numbers in 2020, it appears that the powerful 31-year-old's stock is again rising. Stanton hit six home runs and drove in 13 last postseason, reminding fans of his incredible power.

BATS: R • THROWS: R • DOB: 11/8/89 • HOMETOWN: SUNLAND-TUJUNGA, CA • SCHOOL: NOTRE DAME HS (SHERMAN OAKS, CA)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	23	76	12	19	7	0	4	11	1	15	27	.250	.387	.500
CAREER	1,185	4,329	698	1,160	246	11	312	796	42	584	1,402	.268	.359	.546

39 MIKE TAUCHMAN

OF

For many hitters, Colorado's high altitude leads to breakout numbers. But for Mike Tauchman, a trade from the Rockies to the Yankees helped elevate his career. Now in his third season in the Bronx, Tauchman – who was 9-for-59 (.153) in his brief Rockies tenure – has become a valuable left-handed option in Aaron Boone's lineup and a rock-solid defensive player capable of manning all three outfield positions. In 2019, his first year in pinstripes, the Sock Man batted .277 with 13 home runs and 47 RBI in 87 games before his season was cut short by injury.

BATS: L • THROWS: L • DOB: 12/3/90 • HOMETOWN: PALATINE, IL • SCHOOL: BRADLEY (PEORIA, IL)

	G	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	RBI	BB	SO	SB	AVG	OBP	SLG
2020	43	95	18	23	6	0	0	14	6	14	26	.242	.342	.305
CAREER	182	414	71	104	25	2	13	63	14	57	122	.251	.343	.415

Evan Trost has
a love for the outdoors
a fascination with model planes
two beautiful children
and Tourette Syndrome.

Dr. Evan Trost is a dedicated and committed young M.D. specializing in wellness and preventative medicine at his private practice in Scottsdale, Arizona. Patients – especially kids – spark to Evan's openness and compassionate bedside manner. Evan also happens to be one of the hundreds of thousands of Americans to have been born with Tourette Syndrome – an often misdiagnosed and misunderstood neurological disorder that's a lot more common than you think. You may know or have seen someone with TS symptoms – they sometimes make sudden, often strange, physical movements or vocal sounds that they just can't help. People with TS are not psychologically impaired, less intelligent, obstinate or purposefully disruptive. And contrary to what you may have heard, fully 85 to 90 percent are *not* prone to using inappropriate language. Research continues to explore the causes of Tourette Syndrome, and hopefully, the day will come soon when we can find better treatments and the cure. But until then, if you come across someone who has TS, please remember that, like Dr. Evan Trost, that person has a whole lot more.

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CLASH OF THE TITANS

EIGHTY YEARS AGO, THE YANKEES AND DODGERS INITIATED BASEBALL'S GREATEST WORLD SERIES RIVALRY

BY NATHAN MACIBORSKI

As the 2021 season commenced, analysts pegged the Yankees and Dodgers as favorites to win their respective leagues. Loaded with talent, both teams had been October regulars, with the Yankees seeking a fifth straight trip to the postseason and the defending world champion Dodgers looking to get back to the World Series for a fourth time in five years.

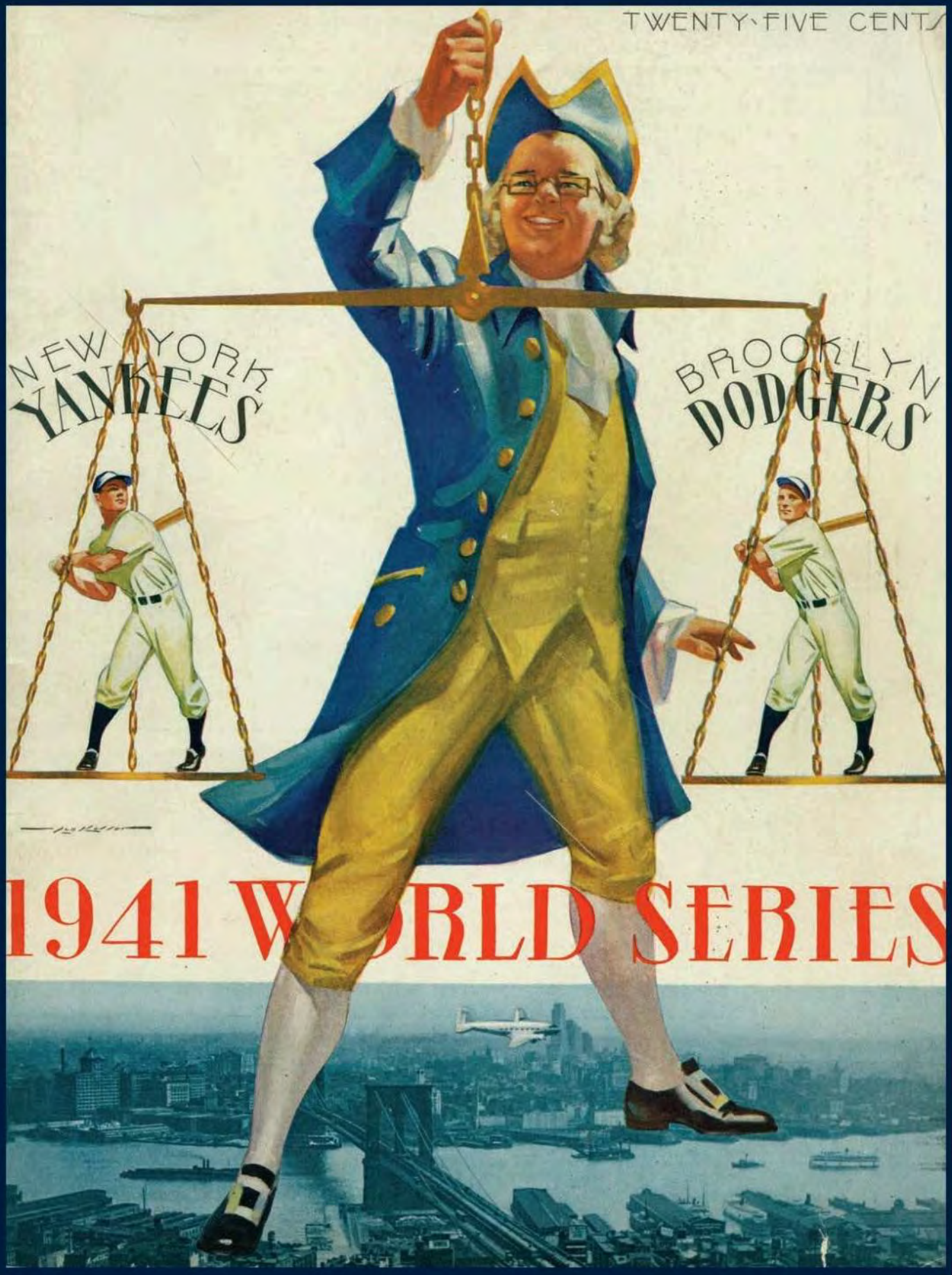
It's hard to believe that it has been 40 years since these two franchises last met in the Fall Classic. The 1981 World Series marked the 11th time that the former crosstown rivals clashed on baseball's grandest stage, with the Yankees winning eight of those meetings. But before Fernandomania or Reggie, before Koufax and Whitey, or Mickey and the Duke, even before Jackie and Yogi, the 1941 World Series pitted these two iconic franchises against each other for the first time. As is the case today, both sides were rife with talent. Then, as now, there were also events going on in the world that were bigger than baseball. And for one Yankees rookie, those events turned what should have been the beginning of a long, successful career into his final appearance on a major league diamond.

After winning four straight World Series championships from 1936 to '39, the Yankees faltered a bit in 1940, going 88-66 and finishing in third place, two games behind Detroit. But in 1941, the team's 26-year-old center fielder, Joe DiMaggio, had the greatest season of his Hall of Fame career, authoring a 56-game hitting streak that remains one of baseball's most hallowed records.

"In many ways, 1941 was not so much the Yankees' year as it was Joe DiMaggio's; a year when he would capture the headlines and hypnotize the nation as no athlete had since the heyday of Babe Ruth," Bert Sugar wrote in The 1940s edition of *The Stadium* magazine.

DiMaggio was batting .371 when the streak ended on July 17, and over the next two weeks, with the pressure to keep it going having disappeared, he hit .426 with 18 RBI, helping the Yanks — who had trailed the Indians in the standings as late as June 27 — go 13-3 and open up a 12.5-game lead in the pennant race. A 6-3 win over Boston on Sept. 4 marked the earliest date that the American League flag had ever been captured other than 1918, when the season ended early due to World War I.

While a return to the World Series felt like a homecoming for Joe McCarthy's men, the Brooklyn Dodgers had no such familiar feelings. Since a 5-games-to-2 loss to the Cleveland Indians in the best-of-nine 1920 World Series, the Robins, as they were known from 1914 until 1931 in honor of manager Wilbert Robinson, had languished while the previously moribund Yankees won their first 11 pennants and eight world championships. Starting in 1921, Ebbets Field was home to a team


TWENTY-FIVE CENTS
NEW YORK
YANKEES
BROOKLYN
DODGERS
1941 WORLD SERIES

that finished in the bottom half of the National League standings in 14 out of 18 seasons, until a brash 33-year-old with Yankees ties took over as player-manager.

In 1939, Leo "The Lip" Durocher — the scrappy, foul-mouthed bench jockey who was a rookie infielder on the Yanks' '28 championship squad but talked his way out of pinstripes within two years — guided Brooklyn to a third-place finish. In 1940, as team president Larry MacPhail continued to raid talent from around the league, the Dodgers finished second. (After taking the Dodgers job in January 1938, MacPhail would purchase or trade for every player in the starting lineup of the '41 World Series opener — getting the better of the deal every time — other than third baseman Cookie Lavagetto, who came over from Pittsburgh in December 1936.)

In 1941, Brooklyn put it all together, winning 100 games for the first time since 1899 and holding off the St. Louis Cardinals for the NL pennant. Of equal importance to the team's owners, the Dodgers, who in their lengthy history had never led the league in attendance, finished first in 1940 and again in '41. (The team has little trouble filling seats these days, as Clayton Kershaw and the Dodgers have led the 15-team National League in attendance every year since 2013.) When "Dem Bums" wrapped up a 17-game road trip with a 6-0 win at Boston's Braves Field on Sept. 25 that clinched their first pennant in 21 years, the Dodgers came home to an absolute frenzy, the likes of which Brooklyn had never seen.

And so, the table was set for the first Yankees-Dodgers World Series. Most outside observers predicted a Yankees victory. But if you had stopped any man, woman or child on the streets of Brooklyn that September and asked how the Yanks would fare, "We'll moider 'em" was a common retort.

In 1941, DiMaggio captivated the nation with his record 56-game hitting streak. When it finally ended in mid-July, the Yankees celebrated by going on a tear that helped them pull away from the rest of the American League. They clinched the pennant on Sept. 4, the earliest date in AL history outside of the abbreviated 1918 season.

Wed., Oct. 1: Game 1 — Yankee Stadium
Yankees 3, Dodgers 2

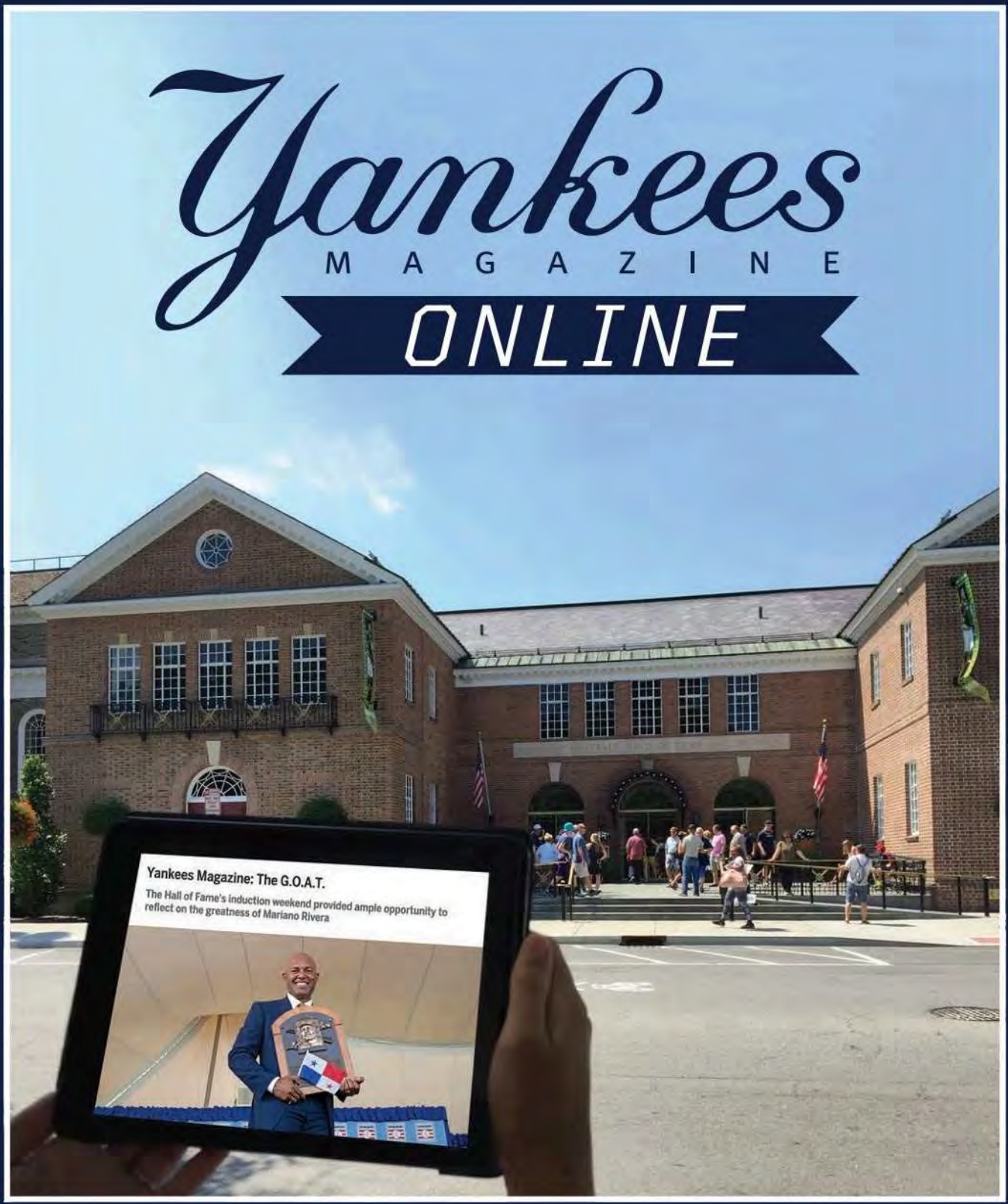
Turning down a mid-September request from the New York City Council to delay the start of the World Series by a day because of Yom Kippur, Major League Baseball Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis was among a World Series–record crowd of 68,540 at Yankee Stadium for the Wednesday afternoon opener. Interest in the Series was extremely high, as it was a diversion for anxious New Yorkers, and Americans at large, who could feel their country getting sucked closer and closer to war. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, a native of Hyde Park, New York, brought a portable radio into his office at the White House so he could follow the action. In the crowd were so many notable celebrities — Babe Ruth included — "that any ball fouled into the stands was almost bound to hit some famous person," Arthur Daley wrote in *The New York Times*.

Red Ruffing, the 36-year-old right-hander who would be known today as the Yankees' greatest heist from the Red Sox if not for Ruth, found the ball in his shoe on the morning of a World Series opener for the fifth time in his Yankees career. His first pitch was delivered at 1:35 p.m., and after walking the leadoff batter, Dixie Walker, he promptly set the Dodgers down in order.

The '41 Dodgers' pitching staff was primarily right-handed — southpaws started just four games for Brooklyn that season — and that was just fine by the Yankees. Five of their eight starting position players — catcher Bill Dickey, right fielder Tommy Henrich, left fielder Charlie Keller, third baseman Red Rolfe and first baseman Johnny Sturm — batted left-handed, in a home ballpark that was favorable to hitters who could drive the ball to right.

Eight years earlier, Sturm had been playing church league baseball and working for Anheuser-Busch in his hometown of St. Louis. Now, the 25-year-old rookie was leading off and playing first base for the Bronx Bombers. The last time the Yankees were in the World Series, in 1939,

Yankees MAGAZINE ONLINE



AT HOME OR ON THE ROAD,
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Lou Gehrig was the team's Opening Day first baseman, and Sturm had latched on to the Iron Horse during spring training that year, absorbing all he could from the Yankees legend. With those lessons in mind — and with a monument to Gehrig, who had died of ALS at age 37 on June 2, 1941, situated to the left of the flagpole in center field — Sturm set the tone against Dodgers right-hander Curt Davis, smacking his second pitch into left field for a base hit.

Yankees second baseman Joe Gordon homered into the left-field seats in the second inning, and DiMaggio would have done the same in the fourth if not for Joe Medwick's leaping catch at the wall. The key play came in the top of the seventh. A Phil Rizzuto error at short led to an unearned run that cut the Yanks' lead to 3-2, and the Dodgers still had runners on first and second with nobody out. But Pee Wee Reese got overly aggressive and tried to tag up on a foul pop that Rolfe hauled in just in front of the Yankees' dugout; he threw to Rizzuto, who tagged out Reese at third to complete the rally-killing double play. The Dodgers put two men aboard again in the ninth, but Ruffing induced a double-play ground ball from Herman Franks to end the game.

"I felt fine out there all afternoon, save for one spasm of weakness," said Ruffing, who improved to 6-1 in eight World Series starts for the Yankees. "It hit me along about the seventh inning. I felt tired and weary. It was hot and sticky. But it passed quickly, and I finished all right."

Thu., Oct. 2: Game 2 — Yankee Stadium
Dodgers 3, Yankees 2

There was considerable debate about the 1941 AL MVP Award, won by DiMaggio over Ted Williams, who batted .406. The only question about the NL award was which Dodger would win. Dolph Camilli, the slugging first baseman whose trade from the Phillies in March 1938 was considered the cornerstone of the Dodgers' rebuild (and one of the worst deals in Philadelphia history), claimed the honor after leading the NL in

The 68,540 fans who jammed into Yankee Stadium for the opener set a new record for World Series attendance. Babe Ruth was among the many celebrities on hand that afternoon who watched Gordon [top] open the scoring with a solo homer in the second.

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The first half of Game 2 belonged to the Yankees, as Chandler [top] faced the minimum 12 batters through four innings and drove in the game's first run. But the Dodgers rallied for a 3-2 win, knotting the Series at a game apiece as it shifted to Ebbets Field [above]. Brooklyn fans had to wait an extra day for the first Fall Classic game in Flatbush since 1920 due to rain that gave way to unseasonably warm temperatures.

homers and RBI. Pete Reiser, at 22 years old, the youngest batting champ in NL history (until 21-year-old Juan Soto in 2020), finished second, while 22-game winner Whitlow Wyatt — Durocher's choice to start Game 2 — finished third.

Perhaps no player represented the '41 Dodgers better than Wyatt, the seen-it-all 34-year-old vet who had bumped around the American League throughout the 1930s, at one point resigning himself to a life of cattle farming in rural Georgia. Convinced to give it another go, Wyatt became a perennial All-Star in Brooklyn, and looked to become the first visiting pitcher to win a World Series game at Yankee Stadium since Hal Schumacher, who pitched all 10 innings of a 5-4 Giants win in Game 5 of the 1936 World Series — a streak of seven straight home wins for the Yanks. Wyatt did just that, sending Dodgers fans floating back to Brooklyn on cloud nine after his 3-2 complete-game victory knotted the Series at a game apiece.

The first half of the game belonged to the Yankees. Starting pitcher Spud Chandler drove in the game's first run with an RBI single in the second, watched Keller drive in Henrich in the third, and had faced the minimum 12 batters through four innings. But Chandler sputtered in the fifth, allowing the Dodgers to tie the game, 2-2, and was removed in the sixth after the first two batters reached base. Johnny Murphy came in to put out the fire and struck out Reiser, but Camilli's single to right on a full count drove in what was ultimately the game-winning run. Working ever so deliberately (much to the Yankees' chagrin), Wyatt, who had allowed seven hits over the first four innings, surrendered just two over the final five.

"I was proud of that game," Wyatt recalled in a 1976 interview. "They had all those hitters and had won all those consecutive games in the World Series, and I beat them."

Sat., Oct. 4: Game 3 — Ebbets Field
Yankees 2, Dodgers 1

The first World Series game at Ebbets Field in 21 years was scheduled for Friday, Oct. 3, but rain forced the Flatbush faithful to wait one more day. Fred Fitzsimmons, making his first World Series appearance since getting bombed as a member of the Giants in the Yankees' 13-5 Series–clinching victory back in '36, was named the Dodgers' starter. "I hope I can take them," the knuckleballer with the whirling, deceptive delivery said. "They certainly owe me one."

Through seven innings, he had gotten what he wished for, keeping the Yankees off the scoreboard. Unfortunately for Fitzsimmons and the Dodgers, Yankees starter Marius Russo also put up nothing but zeroes. It took a line drive off Russo's bat that ricocheted off Fitzsimmons' leg high into the air and into Reese's glove for the final out of the seventh to finally knock "Fat Freddie" out of the game — his kneecap had been badly injured.

Brooklyn's Hugh Casey, who had bailed Game 1 starter Davis out of a sixth-inning jam three days earlier, began the eighth inning. As good as Casey had been down the stretch, going 4-2 with a 1.27 ERA in 11 September relief appearances, he hadn't taken the mound at Ebbets Field since Sept. 7. After getting Yankees leadoff man Sturm to fly out to Reiser in center, Casey allowed four straight singles to Rolfe, Henrich, DiMaggio and Keller. In mere minutes, a scoreless game turned into a 2-0 Yankees lead. Larry French, the only left-hander the Yanks would face in the Series, came in and got Dickey to hit into a double play, and Reese would nick Russo for a run in the eighth to make it 2-1. But Russo, the 27-year-old Brooklyn native whose parents had emigrated from Italy, finished the job, retiring Reiser, Medwick and Lavagetto in order in the ninth.

The tightly contested victory in enemy territory, played in record 85-degree heat, seemed to relax the Yankees and their MVP center fielder. DiMaggio's RBI single to open the scoring in the eighth was his second hit of the day, after going 0-for-7 across the first two games of the Series.

"It's tough when they rob you of one as Medwick did in the opener, but it's nice to get that first one," cool Joe D said afterward, cigarette in hand. "The tension lessens then. You swing freer. Everything's going to be all right now."

Sun., Oct. 5: Game 4 — Ebbets Field
Yankees 7, Dodgers 4

Like Fred Merkle before him or Bill Buckner after, Dodgers catcher Mickey Owen had a superb career overshadowed by one fateful play. One of the best defensive catchers of his era, Owen made his first of four straight NL All-Star teams in 1941, committing just three errors all season. But his miscue in the ninth inning of Game 4, with the Dodgers one strike away from tying the World Series at two games apiece, remains etched in baseball lore.

Casey, who had been the goat just 24 hours earlier, was well on his way to redemption, cleaning up a bases-loaded

THE LUCKIEST MAN'S LEGACY

Baseball will celebrate inaugural Lou Gehrig Day on June 2

From his eternal place in Monument Park, to the Main Level concourse where his legendary speech plays on loop, to the countless No. 4 shirts and jerseys seen throughout the seating areas on any given gameday, Lou Gehrig remains a constant presence at Yankee Stadium. But on March 4, Major League Baseball announced a new, leaguewide initiative, adding an annual "Lou Gehrig Day" to the baseball calendar every June 2. In 2021, the Yankees will play host to the Rays as they take part in the inaugural celebration.

The date marks both the anniversary of Gehrig taking over as the Yankees' first baseman in 1925 – a job he would hold onto for 15 seasons without missing a game – and also the day that he died in 1941 from complications of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS), a neurodegenerative disease that subsequently came to be known as Lou Gehrig's disease.

"Major League Baseball is thrilled to celebrate the legacy of Lou Gehrig, whose humility and courage continue to inspire our society," said Commissioner Robert D. Manfred Jr. "While ALS has been closely identified with our game since Lou's legendary career, the pressing need to find cures remains. We look forward to honoring all the individuals and families, in baseball and beyond, who have been affected by ALS and hope Lou Gehrig Day advances efforts to end this disease."

Every year, Lou Gehrig Day will serve as a clarion call throughout the sport to remember and honor Gehrig's legacy, as well as the memories of all those lost to the devastating disease. It will also raise awareness and funds, and celebrate those who are working to find a cure. Players will wear "4-ALS" patches and wristbands, and the logos will appear throughout ballparks.

Gehrig's on-field accomplishments – six World Series titles, two MVP awards, seven All-Star Game selections (an honor that didn't even exist until 1933), and, of course, the streak of 2,130 consecutive games played that earned him the "Iron Horse" moniker – were more than enough to warrant Hall of Fame induction. But the most impactful vestige of Gehrig's time on earth has been his association with the search for a cure for ALS. That legacy extends to so many who have long been part of the struggle to fight the disease.

"I am thrilled that Major League Baseball is using its reach and influence to honor Lou's legacy while, at the same time, raising awareness of ALS and the need for a cure," said Hall of Famer Cal Ripken Jr., who broke Gehrig's record streak in 1995. "Because of my streak, I have always been tied to Lou, and I always considered that to be a tremendous honor as he is one of the game's all-time greats. This is a wonderful initiative, and I am proud to be a small part of it."

For more details about the inaugural Lou Gehrig Day, visit www.lg4day.com or MLB.com.

–Jon Schwartz

GEHRIG MONUMENT DEDICATION, JULY 6, 1941

mess in the fifth and then — after a Reiser home run put Brooklyn ahead, 4-3 — allowing no Yankees runner to advance past first base. Putting everything he had into what he hoped would be the final pitch of the ballgame, Casey delivered a knee-buckling full-count curveball to Henrich.

"As I start to swing, I'm out of business because I can't reach it; the ball is breaking down," Henrich recalled years later. "I start to swing, and I want to hold up because it's a lousy pitch out of the strike zone."

Henrich missed it, but so did Owen. As the ball rolled to the backstop, "Old Reliable" hustled down the first-base line, arriving safely thanks to one of baseball's quirkiest (and oldest) rules.

"Then," Henrich said, "everything exploded."

The next five batters all reached safely, with Keller and Gordon each supplying two-run doubles. Murphy mercifully made the last out, then retired the Dodgers in order in the bottom of the ninth.

"I guess I've lost 'em just about every way now," Casey bemoaned afterward. His performance leading up to "the strikeout that wasn't" earned him some sympathy, though.

"No pitcher ever had victory snatched from him in a manner as brutal," Shirley Povich wrote in *The Washington Post*.

Mon., Oct. 6: Game 5 — Ebbets Field
Yankees 3, Dodgers 1

The Dodgers tried to remain upbeat after the crushing loss in Game 4. Camilli, providing a first-hand account of the Series for International News Service, pointed to the Dodgers' improved hitting in Game 4 as reason for hope — "It's an uphill fight, but we don't mind that." Yet, he also lamented that "no team can ever get a worse break than we got yesterday."

Many figured that McCarthy would go back to Ruffing in Game 5, but he opted to save his ace in case of a Game 6. And while Wyatt was once again superb for the Dodgers, sprinkling six hits across nine innings and striking out nine, the Yankees' Ernie "Tiny" Bonham was even better. On a scorching hot Monday afternoon in Flatbush in which blood pressure rose with the temperature — "the two teams fought the umpires and each other at every turn," Judson Bailey reported for The Associated Press — the Yankees closed the books on their ninth World Series title by defeating the Dodgers, 3-1, behind Bonham's complete-game four-hitter.

The 28-year-old right-hander, making his first career postseason start, retired 18 of the last 20 batters he faced, allowing just a walk and a single over the final six innings. Durocher could only watch as his batters went down feebly on four pitches in the sixth, then on three in the seventh. With two gone in the ninth, the skipper pinch-hit for future Hall of Famer Reese, but Jimmy Wasdell lofted an easy fly ball to DiMaggio for the final out.

Like Game 1 starter Ruffing and Game 3 starter Russo, Bonham went the distance and allowed just one earned run. Unlike Ruffing and Russo, Bonham did so while wearing a whalebone corset to aid his ailing back, the result of having toiled in a Northern California lumber camp many years earlier. That didn't stop McCarthy from hopping on his pitcher's back and riding him around the visitors' clubhouse at Ebbets Field after the victory as coach Art Fletcher led the Yanks in their chorus of "The Sidewalks of New York."

"Wait Till Next Year" was splashed across the front page of the *Brooklyn Eagle* the next day, but it ran well below the fold. Commanding the top of Page 1, as would be the case for many months to come, was a headline reporting on Nazi advances in Europe. The 1941 World Series had been a welcome distraction, but now it was back to the reality of a war rapidly expanding in scope. In two months' time, the United States would be dragged into the fray, and nothing would ever be the same. More than half of the 38

The Dodgers were one strike away from tying the Series at two games apiece, but Owen couldn't corral strike three and Henrich [R] raced safely to first. "Then," Henrich recalled years later, "everything exploded." The next five batters all reached base as the Yankees pulled away for an improbable 7-4 victory.

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UNITED AS ONE

men who played in the '41 Classic would serve their country during World War II, including future Hall of Famers Dickey, DiMaggio, Gordon, Rizzuto and Ruffing. Even the 51-year-old MacPhail — whose brazen attempt to kidnap former German emperor Kaiser Wilhelm II during World War I nearly cost him his life — re-enlisted in the Army, rising to the rank of colonel.

For the next three seasons, scores of major leaguers sacrificed prime years of their playing careers to support the Allied effort. When they returned after the war ended, many found it difficult, if not impossible, to regain their prior level of play, if they were lucky enough to get back to the majors at all.

Two weeks after winning the 1941 World Series, Sturm married his high school sweetheart, Florence Knobbe, and the 25-year-old's future couldn't have looked any brighter. But following the attack on Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, a date which has indeed lived in infamy, Sturm enlisted in the Army Air Forces. Assigned to Jefferson Barracks in Missouri, where he managed a baseball team that included Reiser, Sturm was clearing land for a baseball diamond when he suffered a horrific injury to his non-throwing hand in a tractor accident. After an honorable discharge from the service in November 1945, Sturm attempted to win back his old job with the 1946 Yankees, but injuries caught up to the 30-year-old, and he spent the rest of his career in the minors.

Should the Yankees and Dodgers lock horns in the Fall Classic again this year, 80 years after their first meeting and 40 years since their last, the excitement surrounding the Series will undoubtedly be off the charts. A matchup featuring two marquee franchises steeped in history and tradition — and two opposing starting pitchers who were college teammates at UCLA — would certainly capture the nation's attention and distract from anything going on in the world. If that were to haoppen, Sturm's tale could serve as a reminder to all involved that such an opportunity must be savored because nothing in baseball is guaranteed.

The Yankees closed the books on the Series in Game 5, with Bonham [opposite, C] going the distance. The United States would soon be dragged into World War II, with more than half of the participants in the '41 Series enlisting in the armed forces. For Sturm [above], the 1941 season marked his first and last turn on a big-league diamond.

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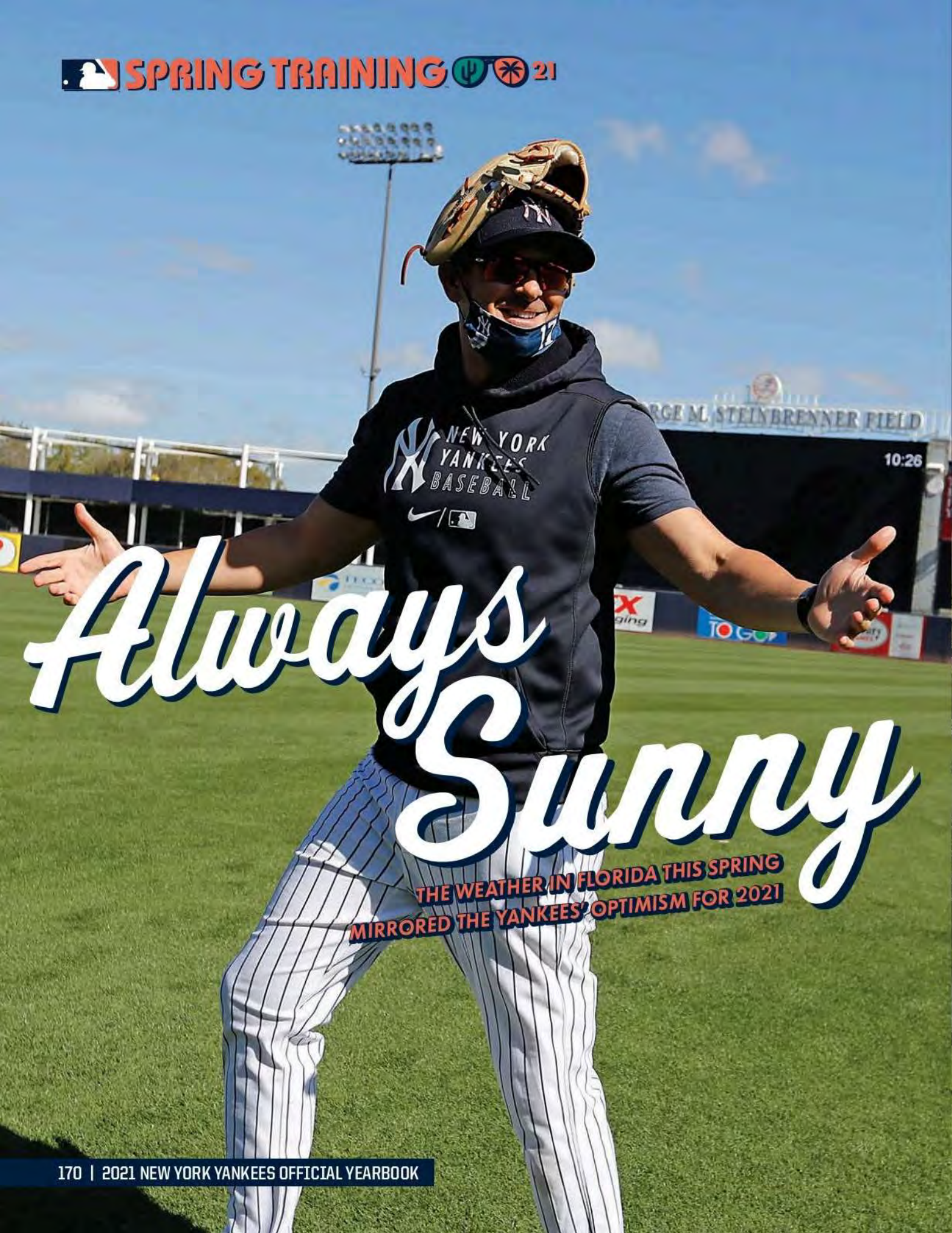

Always Sunny

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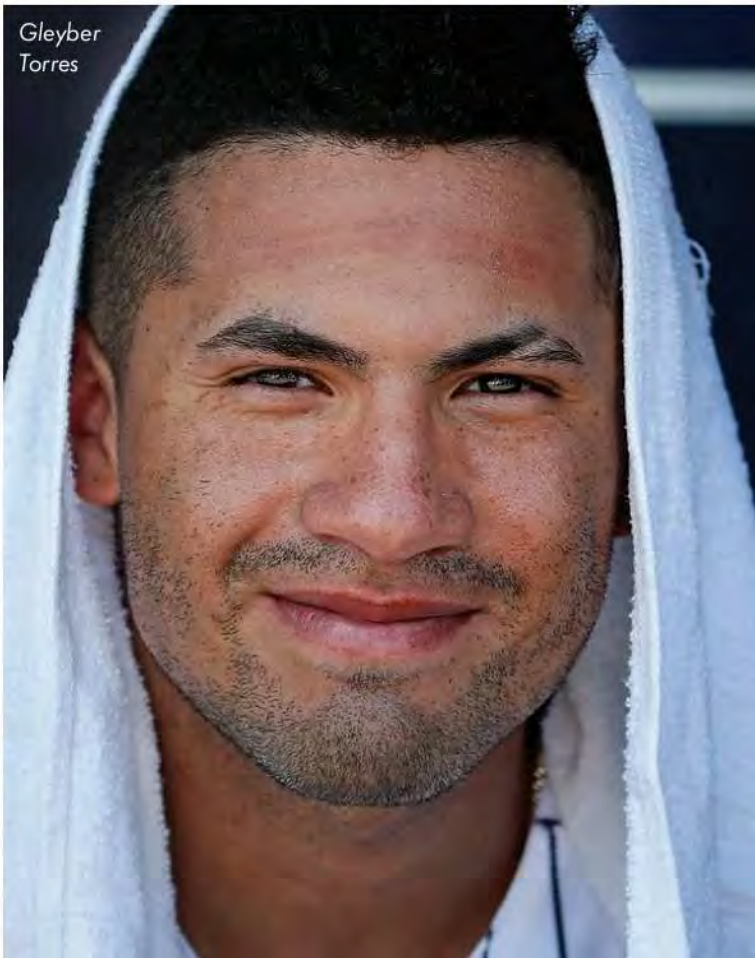
Yankees outfielders

Luke Voit



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FUN WITH PHOTOS

HOW GOOD IS YOUR EYE FOR DETAIL? THE PHOTO ON THE BOTTOM HAS 10 CHANGES. CAN YOU FIND THEM?

WORD FIND

YANKEES DRAFT PICKS

A	D	A	S	O	P	T	E	S	E	R	U	F	W	O
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Anthony VOLPE

WHO AM I ?

During my senior season at the College of Charleston, I hit .447 and collected 122 hits, tied for the most in college baseball.

The Yankees selected me in the third round of the 2005 draft – the 109th pick overall that year.

I made my major league debut in June 2008 and scored the final run at the old Yankee Stadium that September.

ANSWER KEY FOR ALL PUZZLES ON PAGE 178

KIDS CORNER

KIDS TRIVIA

YANKEES DRAFT PICKS

From first-round future Hall of Famers to late-round steals, Yankees draft picks have often gone on to make a huge impact in the Bronx. With several homegrown Yankees contributing to this year's squad, let's see how well you know your pinstripe picks ...

1. When the Yankees drafted and signed Kalamazoo Central High School shortstop Derek Jeter in 1992, he had already committed to play baseball at which school?

A) Michigan B) Michigan State

C) Minnesota D) Notre Dame

2. Which pitcher was chosen by the Yankees in the fourth round of the 1965 draft and earned AL Rookie of the Year honors three years later?

A) Cecil Perkins B) Mel Stottlemyre

C) Fred Talbot D) Stan Bahnsen

3. Which current pitcher in the Yankees organization was a first-round draft pick of the team out of high school but opted to attend college at the time?

A) Aaron Judge

B) Chad Green

C) Gerrit Cole

D) Clarke Schmidt

4. Which Yankees legend wasn't drafted by the Bombers until the 19th round out of Reitz Memorial High School in 1979?

A) Don Mattingly

B) Dave Winfield

C) Rickey Henderson

D) Mariano Rivera

5. Since the inaugural draft in 1965, the Yankees have selected just four catchers in the first round. Who is *not* on that list?

A) Thurman Munson B) Jorge Posada

C) Anthony Seigler D) Dave Parrish

ANSWERS

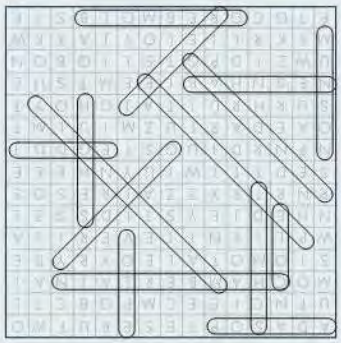
FUN WITH PHOTOS

1. Removed line from outfield wall
2. Flipped Aaron Judge's No. 99 upside down
3. Enlarged Judge's glove
4. Extended Judge's left sleeve
5. Added glove to young fan's hand
6. Changed color of Judge's socks to green
7. Flipped Yankees logo upside down on fan's jersey
8. Changed soccer ball to baseball on fan's red shirt
9. Added "318 FT" sign to outfield wall
10. Removed wristband from Judge's right arm

TRIVIA

1. A
2. D
3. C
4. A
5. B

WHO AM I?



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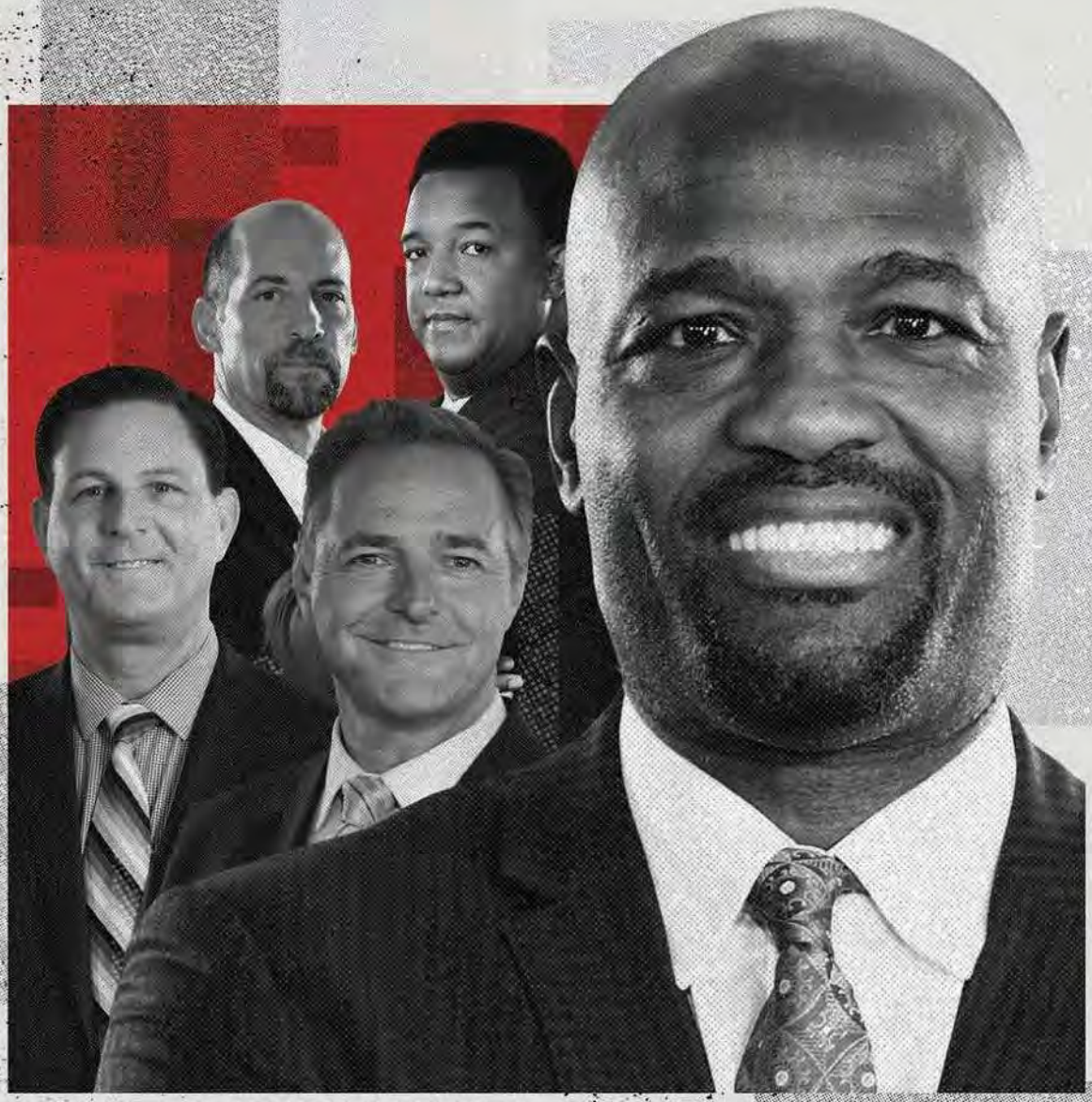

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STADIUM MAP & DIRECTIONS

PLEASE NOTE THAT PROTECTIVE NETTING OF VARYING HEIGHTS IS USED IN THE STADIUM FROM SECTION 011 TO BEHIND HOME PLATE TO SECTION 029.

FOR INDIVIDUAL TICKETS

ticketmaster

yankees.com yankeesbeisbol.com

FOR TICKET INFORMATION, INCLUDING PRICING, PLEASE VISIT YANKEES.COM.

TRANSPORTATION AND PARKING

DRIVING DIRECTIONS

Yankee Stadium is located at One East 161st Street in the Bronx and is accessible from the Major Deegan Expressway (Interstate 87) at the following exits:

Northbound I-87: Exit 4 (East 149th Street/145th Street Bridge) and Exit 5 (East 161st Street/Macombs Dam Bridge)

Southbound I-87: Exit 5 (East 161st Street/Macombs Dam Bridge)

For drivers using GPS, please plug the following address into your GPS unit:
One East 161st Street, Bronx, New York.

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

By Subway: The No. 4 train (East Side) and the D train (Sixth Avenue) make stops at the 161st Street/Yankee Stadium subway station, located on East 161st Street and River Avenue. B train (Sixth Avenue) service is also available, but only on weekdays. For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

By Bus: Several New York City bus lines provide service to the Stadium. The Bx6 and Bx13 buses stop at East 161st Street and River Avenue; the Bx1 and Bx2 buses stop at East 161st Street and the Grand Concourse, a short walk from the Stadium; and the BxM4 stops at the Grand Concourse and East 161st Street (northbound) and East 158th Street (southbound). For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

By Train: Metro-North offers train service to the Stadium. For more information, please visit www.mta.info or call the MTA at 511.

PREPAID PARKING*

The Yankees neither control nor operate the parking lots and garages surrounding the Stadium and are not responsible for setting parking lot rates, refund policies, rules and/or procedures. City Parking was granted those rights, including responsibility for establishing and controlling parking rates, refund policies, rules and/or procedures, by New York City. Prepaid individual-game parking must be obtained from City Parking. For more information, please visit City Parking at www.cityparking.nyc or call City Parking at (718) 588-7817. For Yankees Season Ticket Licensees, full- and partial-season parking packages can be purchased at a discount off the game-day parking rate. Licensees should contact their Yankees representative at (212) YANKEES for more information.

*Visit www.cityparking.nyc or call (718) 588-7817 throughout the season for lot availability.

For Yankees ticket information, please visit yankees.com or call (212) YANKEES.

Time, opponent, date and team rosters and lineups are subject to change.

The number of innings in a game shall be determined by Major League Baseball and may be shortened in accordance with Major League Baseball rules. The Yankees make no representation, warranty and/or guarantee that nine (9) innings will be played in any game.

Game times listed as TBD are subject to determination by, among others, Major League Baseball and its television partners.

For the 2021 regular season, "Premium Games" will be announced. Please check yankees.com or call (212) YANKEES for more information as it becomes available.

All individual game ticket prices are subject to variable and dynamic pricing, which provide fans with more price options based on changing factors that affect market demand.

In no event will the Yankees be liable to the ticket holder and/or ticket purchaser for any direct, indirect, consequential, exemplary, incidental, special or punitive damages or for lost profits, revenues or business opportunities even if the Yankees have been advised of the possibility of such damages.

Be advised that the Yankees reserve the right to take appropriate action against individuals who fraudulently obtain wheelchair accessible and/or companion seats, including, without limitation, ejection and legal action.

Tickets may not be used for advertising, promotion (including contests, giveaways or sweepstakes), charitable, trade or commercial purposes without the express written consent of the Yankees.

Please note that protective netting of varying heights is located between Section 011 on the first base/right-field side of the Stadium and continues to Section 029 on the third base/left-field side of the Stadium.

WARNING: For the safety of everyone in Yankee Stadium, all Guests must stay alert and be aware of their surroundings at all times, as during all batting practices, fielding practices and warm-ups and throughout the course of all baseball games and the baseball game experiences, baseballs and bats and fragments thereof may be thrown or hit into the stands, concourses, walkways, concessions areas, Monument Park and all other publicly accessible areas within the Stadium. Further, Guests concerned with their original ticketed location by reason of the foregoing should, at any time before or during the baseball game or the baseball game experiences, proceed to a Yankee Stadium Ticket Window, located adjacent to Gate 6 in the Great Hall, adjacent to the Yankees Team Store behind home plate in the Great Hall, or adjacent to Section 320C on the Terrace/Grandstand Level; however, please remember that: (a) any requested relocation is subject to availability; (b) any alternate seat or standing location may be in a section and/or level of the Stadium and/or within a price category that is not in the same section and/or level and/or price category of the Guests' original ticketed location, regardless of their original ticketed location; and (c) any Guest requesting relocation is responsible for paying the incremental price increase, if any, of the ticket price for the available alternate location. Relocation to a seat or standing location at a lower price than the price of the original ticketed location will not result in a refund or credit.

WARNING: Guests may not transmit or aid in transmitting any photographs, images, videos, audio, livestreams or other accounts or descriptions (including play-by-play data), whether text, data or visual, in any media, now known or hereafter developed, of all or any part of the game or related events, without the express written consent of the Yankees.

NOTICE: For the safety of every Guest, all persons specifically consent to and are subject to (a) being screened by metal detectors; (b) bag/clothing inspections; and (c) physical pat-down inspections prior to entry. Any item or property that could affect the safety of Yankee Stadium, its occupants or its property shall not be permitted into the Stadium. Any person that could affect the safety of the Stadium, its occupants or its property shall be denied entry.

NOTICE: The Yankees reserve the right, with or without refunding any amount paid by the ticket holder, to refuse admission to and/or eject any person who: (a) is or appears to be impaired; (b) conceals alcohol, illegal substances and/or other prohibited items while attempting to enter Yankee Stadium; (c) acts in a manner that is unruly, disruptive or illegal; (d) uses derogatory, foul and/ or abusive language and/or gestures; (e) displays and/or wears and fails to cover obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing; (f) exposes him/herself; or (g) otherwise violates the Stadium's Code of Conduct, ordinances, rules, requirements, directives and/or regulations. Ticket holders acknowledge and agree that the Yankees' ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing (i.e., clauses (d) through (f) above) does not violate their right to free speech and/or expression and that such time, place and manner of the restrictions are reasonable to maintain a family-friendly atmosphere for minors, ensure the safety of all Guests and sports or event participants, and preserve the enjoyment of the game or event for all Guests. In addition, ticket holders further acknowledge and agree that by entering the Stadium, they hereby consent to the ban on derogatory, foul and/or abusive language and/or gestures and obscene, indecent and/or inappropriate clothing and waive, to the fullest extent they may legally and effectively do so, any objection they may now or hereafter have to such ban and the penalties that the Yankees may impose for any violation of the same.

CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

FIELD LEVEL

PLEASE NOTE THAT PROTECTIVE NETTING OF VARYING HEIGHTS IS USED IN THE STADIUM FROM SECTION 011 TO BEHIND HOME PLATE TO SECTION 029.

CONCESSIONS AND MERCHANDISE OFFERINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT YANKEES.COM FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

MONUMENT PARK STORE
SECTION 103

FIRST BASE TEAM STORE
SECTIONS 114A-114B

YANKEES MERCHANDISE
SECTIONS 130 & 135 & PEPSI FOOD COURT

YANKEES TEAM STORES
GATE 6 & BEHIND HOME PLATE

DESTINATIONS

3RD BASE CHAMPIONS LOUNGE
SECTIONS 027B-029

CUTWATER LOUNGE
SECTIONS 011-013

FORD FIELD MVP CLUB
BEHIND HOME PLATE

HARD ROCK CAFE YANKEE STADIUM
GATE 6

LEGENDS SUITE CLUB
ADJACENT TO GATE 4

MONUMENT PARK
CENTER FIELD

PEPSI LOUNGE
CENTER FIELD

SPORTS LOUNGE
SECTION 134

YANKEES STEAKHOUSE (VIA ELEVATOR)
ABOVE HARD ROCK CAFE AT GATE 6

AMENITIES

- ATM BANK OF AMERICA
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID dynarex
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

BEER
SECTION 110

BEN & JERRY'S
SECTION 125

BENIHANA/HARU
SECTION 127

CITY WINERY
SECTION 105

COCKTAIL BAR
PEPSI FOOD COURT

COCKTAILS/CRAFT BEER
SECTION 110

GARLIC FRIES
SECTION 108

HIGHLANDERS
SECTION 111

JERSEY MIKE'S CHEESESTEAKS
SECTION 107

KING'S HAWAIIAN GRILL
SECTION 115

KOSHER*
GREAT HALL

LOBEL'S
SECTION 133

NATHAN'S FAMOUS
SECTION 127

OATLY
SECTION 110

PIZZA
SECTION 125

ROTISSERIE CHICKEN AND STEAK
SECTION 105

WINGS
SECTION 109

*NOT AVAILABLE DURING FRIDAY NIGHT OR SATURDAY GAMES/EVENTS OR DURING GAMES/EVENTS THAT FALL ON CERTAIN RELIGIOUS HOLIDAYS

CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

MAIN/BLEACHERS LEVELS

CONCESSIONS AND MERCHANDISE OFFERINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT YANKEES.COM FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

NEW ERA TEAM STORE
BEHIND HOME PLATE

YANKEES MERCHANDISE
SECTION 236

DESTINATIONS

DELTA SKY360°SUITE
SECTIONS 218A-222

FRANK'S REDHOT TERRACE
ADJACENT TO SECTION 238

MICHELOB ULTRA CLUBHOUSE
ADJACENT TO SECTIONS 207 & 208

LEGACY CLUB BOOTH
SECTION 221

NEW YORK YANKEES MUSEUM
PRESENTED BY BANK OF AMERICA
ADJACENT TO SECTION 210

STELLA ARTOIS LANDING
ADJACENT TO SECTION 232A & 232B

T-MOBILE FAN ZONE
BEHIND HOME PLATE

TOYOTA TERRACE
ADJACENT TO SECTION 202

AMENITIES

- ATM BANK OF AMERICA
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID dynarex
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

BEER
SECTIONS 206 & 226

BLUE POINT BLEACHER BAR
SECTION 236

COCKTAILS
SECTIONS 206 & 226

GOOD HUMOR
BLEACHERS

HIGHLANDERS
SECTION 233 & BLEACHERS

MASTERCARD BATTER'S EYE DECK
BLEACHERS

NATHAN'S FAMOUS
SECTION 225

OATLY
SECTIONS 205, 224 & BLEACHERS

PREMIO SAUSAGE/CRAFT BEER
SECTION 217 & BLEACHERS (PREMIO SAUSAGE ONLY)

TRIPLE PLAY GRILL
SECTIONS 201 & 213

TRIPLE PLAY GRILL/GARLIC FRIES
SECTION 205

CONCESSIONS, MERCHANDISE & AMENITIES

TERRACE/GRANDSTAND LEVEL

CONCESSIONS AND MERCHANDISE OFFERINGS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE. VISIT YANKEES.COM FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION.

USE YOUR MASTERCARD AT YANKEE STADIUM CONCESSIONS STANDS.

MERCHANDISE

YANKEES MERCHANDISE
SECTIONS 308 & 330

DESTINATIONS

BUDWEISER PARTY DECKS
SECTIONS 311 & 328

JIM BEAM SUITE LOUNGE
BEHIND HOME PLATE

KIDS CLUBHOUSE
PRESENTED BY PLYMOUTH ROCK ASSURANCE
ADJACENT TO SECTION 310

AMENITIES

- ATM BANK OF AMERICA
- ELEVATOR
- ESCALATOR
- FAMILY RESTROOM
- FIRST AID dynarex
- GUEST RELATIONS
- RAMP
- RESTROOM
- STAIRS
- TICKETS
- WATER FOUNTAIN
- WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE SEATING

CONCESSIONS

BEER
SECTIONS 312 & 322

GARLIC FRIES
SECTION 331

KING'S HAWAIIAN GRILL
SECTION 334

OATLY
SECTIONS 305 & 318

BEN & JERRY'S
SECTION 318

GOOD HUMOR
SECTION 325

LOBEL'S
SECTION 321

PREMIO SAUSAGE/CRAFT BEER
SECTION 320

COCKTAILS
SECTION 321

HIGHLANDERS
SECTIONS 305, 311, 318 & 325

NATHAN'S FAMOUS
SECTION 313

TRIPLE PLAY GRILL
SECTIONS 321 & 326

YES

DOWNLOAD THE YES APP

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2021 SCHEDULE

APRIL

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 1:05 YES TOR	2	3 1:05 YES TOR
4 1:05 YES TOR	5 6:35 YES BAL	6 6:35 YES BAL	7 6:35 YES BAL	8	9 3:10 YES TB	10 1:10 YES TB
11 1:10 YES TB	12 6:37 YES TOR	13 6:37 YES TOR	14 3:07 YES TOR	15	16 7:05 YES TB	17 1:05 YES TB
18 1:05 PIX TB	19	20 6:35 YES ATL	21 6:35 YES ATL	22 6:10 YES CLE	23 7:10 PIX CLE	24 6:10 YES CLE
25 1:10 YES CLE	26 6:35 YES BAL	27 6:35 PIX BAL	28 6:35 YES BAL	29 1:05 YES BAL	30 7:05 YES DET	

MAY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1 1:05 YES DET
2 1:05 YES DET	3	4 7:05 YES HOU	5 7:05 YES HOU	6 1:05 YES HOU	7 7:05 YES WSH	8 1:05 YES WSH
9 1:05 YES WSH	10	11 7:10 YES TB	12 7:10 YES TB	13 7:10 YES TB	14 7:05 PIX BAL	15 7:05 YES BAL
16 1:05 YES BAL	17 8:05 YES TEX	18 8:05 YES TEX	19 8:05 YES TEX	20 2:05 YES TEX	21 7:05 PIX CWS	22 1:05 YES CWS
23 1:05 YES CWS	24	25 7:05 YES TOR	26 7:05 YES TOR	27 7:05 YES TOR	28 7:10 YES DET	29 4:10 PIX DET
30 1:05 PIX DET	31 1:05 YES TB					

JUNE

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1 7:05 YES TB	2 7:05 YES TB	3 1:05 YES TB	4 7:05 YES BOS	5 7:15 FOX BOS
6 1:05 YES BOS*	7	8 8:10 YES MIN	9 8:10 YES MIN	10 8:10 YES MIN	11	12 4:05 PIX PHI
13 1:05 YES PHI	14	15 7:07 YES TOR	16 7:07 YES TOR	17 7:07 YES TOR	18 7:05 YES OAK	19 1:05 YES OAK
20 1:05 PIX OAK	21	22 7:05 YES KC	23 7:05 YES KC	24 1:05 YES KC	25 7:10 YES BOS	26 7:15 FOX BOS
27 7:05 ESPN BOS	28 7:05 YES LAA	29 7:05 YES LAA	30 7:05 YES LAA			

JULY

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1 1:05 YES LAA	2 7:05 PIX NYM	3 1:05 YES NYM
4 7:05 ESPN NYM	5	6 10:10 YES SEA	7 10:10 YES SEA	8 4:10 YES SEA	9 8:10 YES HOU	10 7:15 FOX HOU
11 2:10 PIX HOU	12	13 ALL-STAR GAME	14	15 7:05 ESPN BOS	16 7:05 YES BOS	17 7:15 FOX BOS
18 7:05 ESPN BOS	19	20 7:05 YES PHI	21 7:05 YES PHI	22 7:10 YES BOS	23 7:10 PIX BOS	24 4:10 YES BOS
25 7:05 ESPN BOS	26	27 7:10 PIX TB	28 7:10 YES TB	29 1:10 YES TB	30 7:10 PIX MIA	31 6:10 YES MIA

AUGUST

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 1:10 YES MIA	2 7:05 YES BAL	3 7:05 YES BAL	4 7:05 YES BAL	5 7:05 YES SEA	6 7:05 YES SEA	7 TBD YES SEA
8 TBD YES SEA	9 8:10 YES HC	10 8:10 YES HC	11 2:10 YES HC	12 7:15 FOX CWS**	13	14 7:10 YES CWS
15 2:05 PIX CWS	16	17 7:05 PIX BOS	18 7:05 YES BOS	19 7:05 YES MIN	20 7:05 YES MIN	21 1:05 FSI MIN
22 TBD PIX MIN*	23 7:20 YES ATL	24 7:20 YES ATL	25	26 9:40 YES OAK	27 9:40 YES OAK	28 4:07 PIX OAK
29 4:07 YES OAK	30 9:38 YES LAA	31 9:38 YES LAA				

**NYY at CWS in Dyersville, Iowa

SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			1 7:07 YES LAA	2	3 7:05 YES BAL	4 TBD YES BAL
5 TBD YES BAL	6 1:05 YES TOR	7 7:05 YES TOR	8 7:05 YES TOR	9 7:05 YES TOR	10 7:10 YES NYM	11 7:40 FOX NYM
12 8:05 ESPN NYM	13	14 6:35 YES BAL	15 6:35 YES BAL	16 5:05 YES BAL	17 7:05 PIX CLE	18 1:05 YES CLE
19 1:05 YES CLE*	20 7:05 YES TEX	21 7:05 YES TEX	22 7:05 YES TEX	23	24 7:10 YES BOS	25 4:05 PIX BOS
26 7:05 ESPN BOS	27	28 7:07 YES TOR	29 7:07 PIX TOR	30 7:07 YES TOR	1 7:05 YES TB	2 1:05 YES TB*
3 3:05 YES TB						

HOME AWAY

ALL GAMES ARE P.M., EASTERN TIME.

TIME, OPPONENT, DATE AND TEAM ROSTERS AND LINEUPS, INCLUDING THE YANKEES' ROSTER AND LINEUP, ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

*Listings noted with a red border and an asterisk (*) have game times subject to determination by, among others, MLB and its television partners. Any future start-time changes to these games will also be accompanied by a change in the television partner.

For Yankees ticket information, please visit yankees.com or call (212) YANKEES.

yankees.com

yankeesbeisbol.com

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